HR 153/HCR 89
PROPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
ARTIFICIAL REEF MARINE SANCTUARY IN MALAMA BAY
OFF THE SOUTH SHORE OF THE ISLAND OF OAHU

Statement for
House Committees on
Ocean and Marine Resources
Water, Land Use, Development and Hawaiian Affairs
Joint Public Hearing – April 6, 1987

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HR 153/HCR 89 would establish an artificial reef marine sanctuary in Mamala Bay off the south shore of Oahu. The statement on this resolution does not represent an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

The construction of artificial reefs in Hawaiian waters has led to significant increases in the concentration of fishes at these sites. Such concentrations reflect not only an increase in fishes due to immigration from other areas but also greater productivity due to increase in the availability of basic food chain biota that attach and grow on the artificial substrate. In this respect the artificial reefs can be equated to the development of housing projects where initial inmigration occurs that leads to expanded populations.

We find the rationale and resolve of HR 153/HCR 89 to be accurate, appropriate, and of significant benefit not only to the marine environmental community but to the ocean recreation industry as well.
The Environmental Center submitted the attached statement on companion resolutions HR 153 and HCR 89 at a joint hearing of the House Committees on Ocean and Marine Resources and Water, Land Use, Development and Hawaiian Affairs on April 6, 1987. Our previous statement remains applicable to SR 52 and SCR 40.