



University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Environmental Center

A Unit of Water Resources Research Center
Crawford 317 • 2550 Campus Road • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822
Telephone: (808) 956-7361 • Facsimile: (808) 956-3980

RL: 01255

HB 2186 RELATING TO FISHING

House Committee on Ocean Recreation
and Marine Resources

Public Hearing - February 9, 1995
8:30 A.M., Room 1310 SOT

By
John T. Harrison, Environmental Center
Richard Brock, Sea Grant

HB 2186 would amend Chapter 188, HRS, to establish permit requirements for aquarium fish collection, and charges the department of land and natural resources (DLNR) to actively pursue enforcement of fishing regulations, improve data collection, encourage development of artificial reefs, and promote a tropical fish aquaculture industry.

Our statement on this measure does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

The intent of this measure appears to be a limitation of the number of people engaged in the aquarium fish fishery in order to conserve the aquarium fish resource. The number of permits to be allowed thus is crucial, and should be specified, along with some rational method by which that number was determined.

The measure, if passed, surely will affect the aquarium fish trade, and as with other measures proposed this session, there needs to be recognition of the impact of this proposal on peoples' livelihoods. The \$1,000 figure for a permit fee seems high; why aren't other permits, such as for charter or recreational fishermen, similarly priced?