

IEM Committee

From: Alison Stewart <alisonstewart@pacificwhale.org>
Sent: Thursday, November 02, 2017 9:08 PM
To: IEM Committee
Cc: Autumn R. Ness
Subject: Pacific Whale Foundation testimony regarding restriction on sunscreen products

Aloha,

Please find the below testimony from Pacific Whale Foundation. If you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact me. Mahalo!

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Pacific Whale Foundation supports a restriction on the sale of oxybenzone/octinoxate sunscreen products in Maui.

Our mission is to protect our oceans through science and advocacy, and science has shown that sunscreen products containing oxybenzone, octinoxate, aerosol, as well as other chemicals, are harmful to our fragile coral reefs. Our Marine Naturalists educate ecotour guests daily about the dangers caused by these products. We provide free applications of reef safe sunscreen prior to ecotour boardings, and guests can also purchase reef safe sunscreen onboard at cost. We only carry reef safe sunscreen products in our retail stores in Lahaina and Ma'alaea. We've also placed educational posters and info cards in our stores and on all our vessels to bring attention to this important issue and to help our customers make more eco-conscious sunscreen decisions.

Maui has always been at the forefront of protecting the environment and promoting sustainable ecotourism. We look forward to its continued leadership when it comes to protecting our marine ecosystems from sunscreen pollution.

Sincerely,

Greg Kaufman

Founder and Executive Director

Pacific Whale Foundation



<https://www.pacificwhale.org/cruises/activities/welcome-home-the-whales-lahaina/>

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