



Take Action Now to Protect Florida's Sharks Contact Senate Rules Committee by 5pm tomorrow!

SB 680 Needs Your Support Now

Sharks are disappearing at an alarming rate. Every year, between 63 million and as many as 273 million sharks are killed globally, mostly for their fins. Killing sharks for their fins is incredibly



shortsighted, as sharks are worth far more to our economies alive than dead.

Florida has become the U.S. center for the shark fin trade, and our economy depends on live sharks more than any other. Shark-related tourism (diving) accounts for an annual contribution of \$221 million in Florida. A recent study has shown that 71% of divers are willing to pay higher fees in order to observe sharks in the wild. The sale of shark fins account for only an annual contribution of about \$340,000 to our economy; yet, many of these fisheries are unsustainable and threaten the entire shark ecotourism industry in our state.

Additionally, sharks play an important role in Florida's sport fishing industry. Florida has the world's largest recreational fishing economy—tag-and-release of sharks is an important draw for anglers in our state. Sharks also are invaluable in maintaining balance in our waters. Without healthy shark populations, our other important fish species will fall out of balance.

Protecting shark populations is the right thing to do for our economy and our environment.

Click the [Take Action link below](#) to contact the Senate Rules Committee members before 5pm on Tuesday, Feb. 25 and show your support for Florida's live sharks!

Take Action

Stay Connected!

