HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PRESIDENT TO AMEND EXECUTIVE ORDER 13089 TO EXEMPT MAINTENANCE AND DREDGING ACTIVITIES IN EXISTING SMALL BOAT AND COMMERCIAL HARBORS WITHIN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, 16 U.S.C. Section 6401, et seq., is, among other things, to preserve, sustain, and restore the condition of coral reef ecosystems and to facilitate funding of local coral conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, Executive Orders 13089, 13178, and 13196, issued by the President of the United States, set forth requirements for the protection of coral reef ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 13089 requires federal agencies that take or authorize actions affecting United States coral reef ecosystems to identify those actions, utilize programs and authorities to protect and enhance the coral reef ecosystems, and ensure that those actions do not degrade the conditions of the coral reef ecosystems; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and the Department of Land and Natural Resources have a duty to maintain the harbors of Hawaii by dredging the floors of the harbors and performing other maintenance to remove coral growth before it damages the hulls of small boats and commercial marine vessels or otherwise impedes vessel traffic; and

WHEREAS, the requirement that the Department of Transportation and the Department of Land and Natural Resources comply with the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000 and Executive Order 13089 when removing coral in the course of maintaining Hawaii's harbors has become burdensome for the State; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the President of the United States is requested to amend Executive Order 13089 to exempt activities involving the maintenance and dredging of existing small boat and commercial harbors within the State of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States; the Director of the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement of the Department of the Interior; the Chairperson of Land and Natural Resources; and the Director of Transportation.

OFFERED BY:

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