MAR 0 8 2012

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REVIEW AND PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS TO STRENGTHEN STATE BOATING LAWS AND RELATED ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.

WHEREAS, section 13-245-9, Hawaii Administrative Rules (HAR), requires any person engaged in underwater swimming or diving in navigable waters of the State to mark the person's position with a diver flag; and

WHEREAS, section 13-244-9, HAR, limits all vessels on the waters of the State to a slow-no-wake speed, as to avoid creating a wake of appreciable wave height within two hundred feet of any diver's flag; and

WHEREAS, despite these existing safety regulations, on July 31, 2011, a diver was fatally hit by a motorized inflatable commercial zodiac outside the breakwater of Kaumalapau Harbor on the island of Lanai; and

WHEREAS, on December 29, 2011, a swimmer preparing lanes for a high school canoe paddling race was fatally hit by a boat at Canoe Beach, Kaanapali, on the island of Maui; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to review and provide recommendations to strengthen state boating laws and the related administrative rules; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is urged to hold public hearings on the islands of Lanai, Maui, Molokai, Hawaii, Oahu, and Kauai to review the state boating law, as well as to promote ocean safety, health, and welfare; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources submit a report to the Legislature with its findings and recommendations, including proposed legislation, no

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later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President of the Senate and the Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

OFFERED BY: