## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUATIC RESOURCES.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in-lieu fee
- 2 mitigation is an effective mechanism to restore, create,
- 3 enhance, and preserve aquatic habitats or resources to recover
- 4 the ecological functions, services, and values of aquatic
- 5 resources lost by adverse impacts to other similar aquatic
- 6 habitats. In-lieu fee mitigation is widely used across the
- 7 United States to achieve ecologically valuable conservation.
- 8 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the department of
- 9 land and natural resources to use aquatic in-lieu fee mitigation
- 10 to restore, create, enhance, or preserve aquatic habitats or
- 11 resources as compensatory mitigation where a person is required
- 12 to provide compensatory mitigation prospectively and the use of
- 13 in-lieu fee mitigation is approved by the agency requiring
- 14 mitigation, or for past damages to aquatic habitats or
- 15 resources.
- 16 SECTION 2. Chapter 187A, part IV, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 17 is amended by amending its title to read as follows:

- 1 "[+] PART IV.[+] AQUATIC MITIGATION [BANKS] BANKING AND AQUATIC
- 2 IN-LIEU FEE MITIGATION"
- 3 SECTION 3. Section 187A-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 4 amended to read as follows:
- 5 "[+] §187A-41[+] Aquatic mitigation banking[-] and aquatic
- 6 <u>in-lieu fee mitigation</u>. The department is authorized to
- 7 establish and operate aquatic mitigation banks [-7] and aquatic
- 8 in-lieu fee mitigation, the purpose of which shall be to
- 9 restore, create, enhance, or preserve aquatic habitats or
- 10 resources as compensatory mitigation where a person is required
- 11 to provide compensatory mitigation prospectively and the use of
- 12 banked mitigation or aquatic in-lieu fee mitigation is approved
- 13 by the agency requiring mitigation, or for past damages to
- 14 aquatic habitats or resources."
- 15 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

S.B. NO. 5.D. 2

## Report Title:

Department of Land and Natural Resources; Aquatic Mitigation Banking; Aquatic In-lieu Fee Mitigation

## Description:

Authorizes the Department of Land and Natural Resources to use in-lieu fee mitigation to restore, create, enhance, or preserve aquatic habitats or resources as compensatory mitigation. (SD2)

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