
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING STATE AGENCIES TO EVALUATE, COLLABORATE, AND IMPLEMENT
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES, TECHNOLOGIES, AND REGULATIONS TO
ADDRESS VESSEL BIOFOULING IN HAWAII HARBORS.

1 WHEREAS, biofouling, or biological fouling, is the
2 accumulation of microorganisms, plants, algae, or animals on a
3 wetted surface, such as the hull of a shipping vessel; and
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5 WHEREAS, biofouling begins to accumulate on submerged
6 portions of vessels within a few weeks, and this layer of
7 microfouling facilitates the growth of larger fouling organisms
8 that can decrease the efficiency and safe operation of a vessel;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, studies have shown that biofouling on shipping
12 vessels is an important vector of aquatic invasive species
13 transfer, which, if established in new ecosystems, may pose
14 threats to the environment, human health, property, and
15 resources; and
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17 WHEREAS, the *Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan 2017-2027*
18 recognizes that up to seventy-eight percent of Hawaii's non-
19 native marine algae and invertebrate species can be attributed
20 to vessel biofouling; and
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22 WHEREAS, the *Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan 2017-2027*
23 calls on the Department of Land and Natural Resources,
24 Department of Agriculture, Department of Health, and Department
25 of Transportation to develop hull husbandry practices and
26 proactive hull cleaning standards for nonmilitary vessels to
27 minimize movement of non-native aquatic organisms into Hawaii's
28 ports, harbors, and marinas; and
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1 WHEREAS, section 187A-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
2 designates the Department of Land and Natural Resources as the
3 lead state agency for preventing the introduction of non-native
4 aquatic organisms through the regulation of hull fouling
5 organisms; and

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7 WHEREAS, Chapter 342D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, tasks the
8 Department of Health with administering water pollution control
9 regulations and enforcing water quality standards; and

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11 WHEREAS, section 266-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, provides
12 that all vessels and shipping within the State's commercial
13 harbors and roadsteads are under the care and control of the
14 Department of Transportation; and

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16 WHEREAS, the maritime industry is an important component of
17 the State's economy; and

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19 WHEREAS, a high level of coordination between various state
20 agencies will be required to develop and implement safe and
21 effective measures for management of biofouling in Hawaii's
22 harbors; and

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24 WHEREAS, commercial shipping companies have made great
25 efforts to adopt voluntary best management practices to reduce
26 vessel biofouling, including the use of less toxic protective
27 hull coatings and by cleaning and reapplying coatings within
28 recommended timeframes; and

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30 WHEREAS, the Alliance for Coastal Technologies and the
31 Maritime Environmental Resource Center have developed a program
32 for testing full-capture biofouling removal technologies and
33 have formally invited participation from Hawaii's agencies in
34 its testing programs; and

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36 WHEREAS, the State has been requested to represent isolated
37 tropical island climates for this program; and

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39 WHEREAS, Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes
40 the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to advise and coordinate
41 invasive species-related efforts with and between state,



1 federal, international, and private programs, and to coordinate
2 the State's position with regard to invasive species; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council Resolution
5 18-1 supports the State's involvement in the Alliance for
6 Coastal Technologies and Maritime Environmental Resource
7 Center's program for the assessment and evaluation of biofouling
8 management technologies; and
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10 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Invasive Species Council Resolution
11 18-1 further urges state agencies to cooperate in the
12 development and implementation of an in-water cleaning program
13 in Hawaii's harbors; now, therefore,
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
16 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
17 of 2018, the Senate concurring, that state agencies are urged to
18 work together in planning for Hawaii's involvement in the
19 Alliance for Coastal Technologies and Maritime Environmental
20 Resource Center's program for the assessment and evaluation of
21 biofouling management technologies; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies are urged to
24 review the risks of the non-abrasive cleaning of ship hull
25 microfouling and create processes and conditions, such as best
26 management practices, to allow certain vessels with low-risk
27 hull coatings or paint to apply for an in-water cleaning permit;
28 and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies are urged to
31 develop and implement a measurable and enforceable program to
32 address biofouling, to launch with a voluntary compliance phase-
33 in period by December 31, 2019, in accordance with the *Hawaii*
34 *Interagency Biosecurity Plan 2017-2027*; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the
 3 administrative head of each member of the Hawaii Invasive
 4 Species Council.
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OFFERED BY: Nicole E. Lowe

J. H. Fagan
Anna A. Puletti
Brend Kobayashi
Ryan
Cheryl L. ...
[Signature]
Alan ...
[Signature]
Li. H. K.
[Signature]
[Signature]
Andy Evans
Rich ...
[Signature]

