
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST MANAGEMENT
PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR VESSEL BIOFOULING MANAGEMENT
AND COLLABORATION BY STATE AGENCIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF
BIOFOULING MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS FOR HAWAII HARBORS.

1 WHEREAS, the maritime industry is an important component of
2 Hawaii's economy and commercial shipping companies make great
3 efforts to follow voluntary best management practices to reduce
4 vessel biofouling, including the use of less toxic protective
5 hull coatings and by cleaning and reapplication of coatings
6 within recommended timeframes; and
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8 WHEREAS, biofouling begins to accumulate on submerged
9 portions of vessels within a few weeks, and this microfouling
10 layer facilitates the growth of larger fouling organisms that
11 can decrease the efficiency and safe operation of a vessel; and
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13 WHEREAS, studies have shown biofouling on vessels to be an
14 important vector of aquatic invasive species transfer which, if
15 established in new ecosystems, may pose threats to the
16 environment, human health, property, and resources; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan 2017-2027
19 (Biosecurity Plan) recognizes that vessel biofouling has
20 contributed to up to 78 percent of Hawaii's non-native marine
21 algae and invertebrate species; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Biosecurity Plan calls on the Department of
24 Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Department of Agriculture
25 (DOA), Department of Health (DOH), and Department of
26 Transportation (DOT) to develop hull husbandry practices and
27 proactive hull cleaning standards for nonmilitary vessels to
28 minimize movement of non-native aquatic organisms into Hawaii's
29 ports, harbors, and marinas; and



1 WHEREAS, section 187A-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
2 designates DLNR as the lead state agency for preventing the
3 introduction of non-native aquatic organisms through the
4 regulation of hull-fouling organisms; and
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6 WHEREAS, DOH is tasked with administering water pollution
7 control regulations and enforcing water quality standards under
8 Chapter 342D, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
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10 WHEREAS, section 266-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires
11 that all vessels and shipping within the commercial harbors and
12 roadsteads of Hawaii shall be under the care and control of DOT;
13 and
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15 WHEREAS, a high level of coordination between various state
16 agencies will be required to develop and implement safe and
17 effective measures for biofouling management in Hawaii's
18 harbors; and
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20 WHEREAS, the Alliance for Coastal Technologies (ACT) and
21 Maritime Environmental Resource Center (MERC) have developed a
22 program for testing full-capture biofouling removal technologies
23 and have formally invited participation from Hawaii agencies in
24 its testing programs, and Hawaii has been requested to represent
25 isolated tropical island climates for this program; and
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27 WHEREAS, Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes
28 the Hawaii Invasive Species Council (HISC) to advise and
29 coordinate invasive species-related efforts with and between
30 state, federal, international, and private programs, and to
31 coordinate the State's position with regard to invasive species;
32 and
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34 WHEREAS, HISC Resolution 18-1 supports Hawaii's involvement
35 in the ACT/MERC program for the assessment and evaluation of
36 biofouling management technologies and urges state agencies to
37 cooperate in the development and implementation of an in-water
38 cleaning program in Hawaii's harbors; now, therefore,
39

40 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
41 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2018, that state agencies are urged to work together in
 2 planning for Hawaii's involvement in the ACT/MERC program for
 3 the assessment and evaluation of biofouling management
 4 technologies; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies are urged to
 7 review the risks of non-abrasive cleaning of ship hull
 8 microfouling and create a process and conditions, such as best
 9 management practices, to allow certain vessels with low-risk
 10 hull coatings or paint to apply for an in-water cleaning permit;
 11 and
 12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that state agencies are urged to
 14 develop and implement a measurable and enforceable program to
 15 address biofouling to launch with a voluntary compliance phase
 16 in period by December 31, 2019, in accordance with the
 17 Biosecurity Plan; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 20 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and to the directors
 21 or chairpersons of each HISC agency.
 22
 23
 24

OFFERED BY:

Cindy Brown [Signature]
[Signature] Carl Art
[Signature] Debra A. Seletts
[Signature] Richard [unclear]
Nedra K. [unclear] [Signature]
[Signature] [Signature]

