S.B. NO.2548

JAN 1 7 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MARINE DEBRIS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that marine debris, such
as derelict fishing gear including nets, lines, and ropes, is
often discarded into the ocean either with intent or negligence.
This debris is a pollutant to the environment and efforts to
dispose of it properly should be a priority.

6 The legislature further finds that engagement by the crew 7 aboard vessels should be encouraged to remove debris from the 8 ocean.

9 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of 10 land and natural resources, division of boating and ocean 11 recreation to create a pilot program to further rid the ocean of 12 marine debris. The program would create a partnership between 13 the State and owners, lessees, crews, or other occupants of 14 vessels, whereby crews aboard those vessels would gather marine 15 debris and transfer it to a marine debris recycling center. 16 Appropriated funds would be used to pay those persons for the 17 eligible marine debris delivered to an approved facility.

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1 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources, 2 division of boating and ocean recreation shall implement a pilot project to encourage the collection of man-made marine debris 3 4 found abandoned in the ocean that include but are not limited to 5 fishing nets, ropes, lines, and other similar materials that are not naturally occurring in the ocean. The department shall pay 6 7 fifty cents per pound of eliqible marine debris delivered to a 8 marine debris recycling center approved by the department. The 9 program shall commence on January 1, 2021 and end expire 10 December 31, 2023."

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for creating a pilot project to carry out the purposes of this Act. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act. SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

18 INTRODUCED BY:



S.B. NO. 2548

Report Title:

Marine Debris Recycling; Department of Land and Natural Resources; Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation; Pilot Project

Description:

Appropriating funds to create and implement a marine debris recycling pilot project.

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