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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE PARKS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that according to the  
2 department of health's emergency medical services and injury  
3 prevention system branch, drowning is the fifth leading cause of  
4 fatal injuries in Hawaii, with 385 drowning fatalities occurring  
5 during the five-year period from 2010-2014, averaging fifty-  
6 seven individuals per year. For non-residents during this time  
7 period, drownings were the third leading cause of any type of  
8 death, behind heart disease and cancer, and the leading cause of  
9 injury-related death, ahead of suicide, falls, motor vehicle  
10 accidents, and other causes.

11           The legislature also finds that state ocean safety  
12 officers, also known as lifeguards, act as the primary  
13 responders for emergencies on shorelines and within nearshore  
14 waters at state parks, where the majority of ocean recreational  
15 activities take place. These ocean safety officers provide  
16 injury control and dispatch ocean rescue services to prevent  
17 drownings.



1 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to purchase  
2 necessary equipment for state ocean safety officers to perform  
3 their ocean safety and rescue work at state parks.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for  
7 parks administration and operation (LNR806) for the department  
8 of land and natural resources to purchase equipment to be used  
9 by state ocean safety officers in the course of their work at  
10 state parks; provided that the sum appropriated shall be  
11 expended as follows:

- 12 (1) \$ for four new lifeguard towers;
- 13 (2) \$ for eight utility terrain vehicles;
- 14 (3) \$ for eight all-terrain vehicles;
- 15 (4) \$ for eight jet skis;
- 16 (5) \$ for eight mobile trailers;
- 17 (6) \$ for four four-wheel drive trucks;
- 18 (7) \$ for eight mobile, long-range public  
19 announcement units;
- 20 (8) \$ for eighty additional signage to inform  
21 visitors of ocean risks; and



1 (9) \$ for eight twenty-foot storage containers.

2 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
3 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

DLNR; Lifeguards; Equipment; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to DLNR to purchase ocean safety and rescue equipment for state ocean safety officers at state parks. Takes effect 7/1/2050. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

