DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> ROBERT K. MASUDA FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES POST OFFICE BOX 621

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE

Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on WAYS AND MEANS and JUDICIARY

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 10:35 AM State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 211

In consideration of SENATE BILL 791, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO VESSELS

Senate Bill 791, Senate Draft 1 proposes to amend various sections within Chapter 200, Hawaii Revised Statutes, regarding impoundment and disposal of unauthorized and abandoned vessels on state property and in waters of the State. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) strongly supports this measure.

This measure would allow the Department to respond quicker and more effectively to unauthorized, abandoned, grounded, and derelict vessels under its jurisdiction. Current statutes require the Department to provide seventy-two-hour notice of intent to impound a vessel before being able to take control of the vessel. However, in some instances the condition of a vessel rapidly deteriorates within this time period, leading to increased costs on the Department for impounding and disposing of the vessel. A vessel may break into multiple pieces, requiring additional work for impounding the vessel and creating an increased risk to public safety as well as to our State's natural resources. A vessel may also drift from its initial position and end up in a situation that increases the difficulty in retrieving it.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.





March 2, 2021

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair And Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Subject: SB 791 S.D. 1, Relating to Vessels

This testimony is to convey my support of the intent of this measure. The bill clarifies rights and responsibilities for impoundment and disposition of certain vessels; shortens time for various notifications to the owner; and introduces fees for impound storage.

As recommended by the City and County of Honolulu Department of Customer Services, I support the amendments that imposed fees to go to the body responsible for the execution of the task, and clarify that impoundment occurs on public streets in addition to on the water.

An additional amendment is that the Bill allow for the Department of Land and Natural Resources or the State to provide appropriate property upon which to impound and store vessels.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony. For the forgoing reasons, I respectfully request your passage of SB 791 S.D.1.

Sincerely,

Brandon Elefante Councilmember, District 8

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

MISSION MEMORIAL BUILDING 550 SOUTH KING STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3392 FAX: (808) 768-1591 http://www.honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR



March 2, 2021

The Honorable Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair And Members of the Committee on Ways and Means The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair The Honorable Jarret Keohokalole, Vice Chair And Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary The State Senate State Capitol, Conference Room 211 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 NOLA MIYASAKI DIRECTOR

KIMBERLY M. HASHIRO DEPUTY DIRECTOR



Dear Chairs Dela Cruz and Rhoads, Vice Chairs Keith-Agaran and Keohokalole, and Members of the Committees on Ways and Means and Judiciary,

SUBJECT: S.B. No. 791 S.D. 1 – Relating to Vessels

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD) **supports** the intent and technical amendments of this measure and offers comments.

This bill clarifies rights and responsibilities for impoundment and disposition of certain vessels, shortens time for various notifications to the owner, and introduces fees for impound storage and fines.

As one of many mandates placed upon the city, we face two big issues when it comes to the enforcement of this section. The first lies with funding. While the bill does impose the full financial burden on the owner of the vessel, these fees are often uncollectable and leaves the City and County of Honolulu to front costs without being reimbursed later. As such, CSD recommends that imposed fees and fines go to the body responsible for the execution of the task.

The second big issue is in regards to storage space. As you may know, the City and County of Honolulu already has storage issues when it comes to the towing of abandoned vehicles. This would further burden our limited capacity. Therefore, CSD also requests that the bill allow for DLNR or the State to provide appropriate property upon which to impound and store vessels, since the County of Honolulu does not have adequate property upon which to do so.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on S.B. No. 791, S.D. 1.

Sincerely,

ola Meyasaki

Nola Miyasaki Director

<u>SB-791-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/1/2021 12:13:37 PM Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2021 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Testifying for Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

To: The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, and

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair, the Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Hawaii Reef and Ocean Coalition (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing SB791 SD1 RELATING TO VESSELS Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 3, 2021, 10:35 am, by videoconference

Position: STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB791 SD1!

Aloha Chair DelaCruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means and Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary:

The HAWAI'I REEF AND OCEAN COALITION – HIROC – STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB791!

HIROC was formed in 2017 by coral reef scientists, educators, local Hawaii environmental organizations, elected officials, and others to address the crisis facing Hawaii's coral reefs and other marine life.

Our reefs and oceans are under great stress and need funding for protection! Coral bleaching, polluted runoff, unsustainable fishing, invasive species and abandoned or grounded vessels are all degrading our reefs and oceans that are critical for protecting our aquatic life and shorelines and maintaining our tourism and recreational economy. This bill would speed removal from State lands, including coral reefs, of abandoned and grounded vessels, which can do great harm to coral reefs. HIROC believes this bill would help maintain our reef and ocean health.

Please pass this Bill! Mahalo!



<u>SB-791-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/3/2021 8:40:42 AM Testimony for WAM on 3/3/2021 10:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kathryn Stark- Henski	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in favor of this bill .

The continued conditions of our harbors harm the environment. Allowing derelict boats to remain in the harbors as they sink, distribute oils and human waste and encourage vandlalism and illegal live aboards.

Please pass this bill. Sincerely, Kathryn Henski Waikiki Neighborhood Board #9