A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TOW-IN SURFING.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that current department
- 2 of land and natural resources rules regarding tow-in surfing
- 3 limit the engagement of this activity to periods of high surf
- 4 warning levels as declared by the National Weather Service in
- 5 the region or around the island or islands for which the high
- 6 surf warning has been issued. The legislature further finds
- 7 that this limitation prohibits tow-in surfing participants from
- 8 training and gaining competency in safer, smaller surf.
- 9 The purpose of this Act is to allow tow-in surfing activity
- 10 to occur during periods of smaller surf, subject to all rules
- 11 issued by the department of land and natural resources that
- 12 pertain to this activity.
- 13 SECTION 2. Section 200-37, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 14 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:
- "(c) No person shall operate a thrill craft in the waters
- 16 of the State, except:

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1	(1)	In areas and during time periods designated by the
2		department; provided that a person may operate a
3		thrill craft, while engaged in training for tow-in
4		surfing, during periods that are below high surf
5		warning levels as declared by the National Weather
6		Service;
7	(2)	Through areas designated by the department to serve as
8		avenues for the ingress and egress of thrill craft
9		between the areas designated under paragraph (1) and
10		the shore;
11	(3)	Authorized government personnel conducting operations
12		approved by the department;
13	(4)	Authorized film production permit holders conducting
14		operations approved by the department; or
15	(5)	When used to conduct ocean cleanup, as authorized by
16		rules adopted by the department.
17	To t	he extent that the authorization to operate thrill
18	craft pur	suant to this subsection is inconsistent with any other
19	law, incl	uding section 200-38, this subsection shall control."
20	SECT	ION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
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SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 6 2022

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Report Title:

Department of Land and Natural Resources; Tow-in Surfing; Ocean Recreation

Description:

Allows tow-in surfing during periods that are below high surf warning levels as declared by the National Weather Service.

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