

MAR 11 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES'
DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION'S EFFORTS TO
EXECUTE ITS IMPROVEMENT MASTERPLAN FOR THE HONOKOHAU SMALL
BOAT HARBOR.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'
2 Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation is responsible for
3 administering the State's small boat harbor and ocean recreation
4 management programs; and

5
6 WHEREAS, the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor, under the
7 stewardship of the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, has
8 become a significant gathering place for the West Hawai'i
9 community, where local fishermen launch their boats to fish the
10 world-famous Kona Coast and small, local businesses conduct
11 their commercial operations including fishing charters, manta
12 ray dives, glass bottom boat cruises, and snorkel cruises, in
13 addition to many other ventures; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor currently holds
16 the capacity of two hundred and sixty-two moorings for boat
17 storage, three ramps for offloading and onloading of boats
18 stored elsewhere, a vessel washdown area, fuel facility, harbor
19 office, and two comfort stations; and

20
21 WHEREAS, the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor sustains two
22 hundred local businesses, making it the largest single
23 contributor to West Hawai'i's gross domestic product (GDP),
24 generating \$2 million directly to the State annually and over
25 \$100 million to Hawai'i's GDP; and

26
27 WHEREAS, in August 2018, the Division of Boating and Ocean
28 Recreation formed a working group composed of harbor users,
29 recreational users, commercial operators, key legislators, and
30 representatives from government to discuss potential uses and
31 revenue generating strategies for vacant lands at the Honokohau
32 Small Boat Harbor; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor Working Group is
 2 an important resource to boat operators, harbor users, and the
 3 ocean-going public at large, and has greatly assisted the
 4 Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation to craft its
 5 improvement masterplan for the heavily-used resource, with a
 6 focus on providing a strong sense of place, supporting the local
 7 ocean economy, perpetuating the cultural heritage of the State,
 8 protecting the health and vitality of the nearshore ecosystem,
 9 preparing for the impacts of climate change, and supporting the
 10 advancement of scientific research; and

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 12 WHEREAS, the Honokohau Small Boat Harbor improvement
 13 masterplan considers the Harbor's immediate needs, while also
 14 planning for future expansion; now, therefore,

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 16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
 17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
 18 that this body supports the ongoing efforts by the Department of
 19 Land and Natural Resources' Division of Boating and Ocean
 20 Recreation to execute its priorities for Honokohau Small Boat
 21 Harbor as outlined in its improvement masterplan; and

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 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and
 24 Natural Resources' Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, in
 25 collaboration with the informal Honokohau Small Boat Harbor
 26 Working Group, is requested to submit a report outlining
 27 recommendations regarding steps necessary to execute its
 28 improvement masterplan, including any proposed legislation, to
 29 the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
 30 of the Regular Session of 2023; and

31
 32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 33 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
 34 Board of Land and Natural Resources, Administrator of the
 35 Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, and Mayor of the
 36 County of Hawai'i.

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OFFERED BY: 

