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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THRILL CRAFT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the advancement in  
2 technology used for vessel and watersports equipment propulsion  
3 has outpaced the State's ability to update its related laws.  
4 The legislature further finds that surfboards using motorized  
5 hydrofoil technology are reaching speed capabilities of more  
6 traditional vessel types, such as thrill craft, which can  
7 present safety concerns when motorized hydrofoil surfboards are  
8 operated in areas only intended for non-motorized and manually  
9 powered vessels and equipment. The legislature recognizes that  
10 non-motorized hydrofoils cannot reach speeds comparable to  
11 motorized hydrofoils and therefore should not be considered  
12 thrill craft under the state boating law.

13           Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to modernize the  
14 definition of thrill craft, as used in the state boating law,  
15 and include within the term surfboards using a motorized  
16 hydrofoil.



1 SECTION 2. Section 200-23, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending the definition of "thrill craft" to read as  
3 follows:

4 "Thrill craft" means any motorized vessel [~~that falls into~~  
5 ~~the category of personal watercraft,~~] designed to have the  
6 operator sit, stand, kneel, or lie upon the motorized vehicle  
7 during regular operation, and which:

8 (1) Is [~~generally~~] less than [~~thirteen~~] sixteen feet in  
9 length as manufactured;

10 (2) Is [~~generally~~] capable of exceeding a speed of  
11 [~~twenty~~] fifteen miles per hour;

12 (3) [~~Can be~~] Is typically designed to be operated by a  
13 single operator, but may have the capacity to carry  
14 passengers while in operation; or

15 (4) Is designed to provide similar operating performance  
16 [~~as~~] to a [~~personal watercraft~~] "personal watercraft",  
17 as defined in title 33 C.F.R. section 174.3, through a  
18 combination of small size, [~~power plant,~~] propulsion  
19 machinery, performance characteristics, and hull  
20 design.



1 The term includes~~[r]~~ but is not limited to~~[r]~~ a jet ski,  
2 waverunner, wet bike, surf jet, miniature speed boat,  
3 hovercraft, surfboard using a motorized hydrofoil, and every  
4 description of vessel ~~[which]~~ that uses ~~[an internal combustion~~  
5 ~~engine]~~ machinery powering a water jet pump as its primary  
6 source of motive propulsion~~[, and is designed to be operated by~~  
7 ~~a person or persons sitting, standing, or kneeling on, or being~~  
8 ~~towed behind the vessel]~~. The term shall not include any vessel  
9 that is designed for the operator and passengers to sit or stand  
10 within the hull during regular operation."

11 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Tim Wigen

JAN 21 2022



# H.B. NO. 1900

**Report Title:**

Thrill Craft; Vessels; Motorized Hydrofoil Surfboards

**Description:**

Updates the definition of thrill craft, as used in the state boating law, and includes within the term surfboards using a motorized hydrofoil.

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