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SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION AND KANEOHE BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL, TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY ON KANEOHE BAY TO QUANTIFY THE AMOUNT OF NON-PERMITTED COMMERCIAL ACTIVITY THAT IS OPERATING IN VIOLATION OF THE KANEOHE BAY MASTER PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan was developed pursuant to Act 208, Session Laws of Hawaii 1990, to establish a framework for the sustainable management of Kaneohe Bay's natural resources while accommodating a variety of uses; and

WHEREAS, a compromise among competing interests resulted in a cap on the number of commercial enterprises and volume of commercial activity that would be permitted in Kaneohe Bay; and

WHEREAS, the vision set forth by the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan continues to center on the preservation and protection of Kaneohe Bay's natural resources for the continued enjoyment of Hawaii's people; and

WHEREAS, limits on commercial activity have been exceeded by other activities not previously envisioned, and by new technologies that support their proliferation; and

WHEREAS, examples of expanded commercial activity include non-permitted or non-compliant boat excursions from Heeia Kea Small Boat Harbor and pre-positioned kayak rentals at Heeia State Park that are advertised, coordinated, and paid online; now, therefore;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, that the Legislative Reference Bureau, in consultation with the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation and the Kaneohe Bay Regional Council, is requested to conduct a study of commercial activity on Kaneohe Bay to quantify the amount of non-permitted commercial activity that is operating in violation of the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is also requested to investigate challenges to enforcement against illegal commercial activity at Kaneohe Bay and offer recommendations to improve compliance with the Kaneohe Bay Master Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation, Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, and Chairperson of the Kaneohe Bay Regional Council.

OFFERED BY: 31 Rivies

