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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO ADOPT  
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES PROHIBITING RECREATIONAL BOATING  
ACTIVITIES IN MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

1           WHEREAS, a grounded vessel off of Honolua Bay, Maui, has  
2 caused a fuel spill, leaking diesel into the water at one of  
3 Maui's most well-known marine sanctuaries; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the vessel was initially anchored within three-  
6 hundred yards of Honolua Bay, which is an area designated as the  
7 Honolua-Mokuleia Bay Marine Life Conservation District; and  
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9           WHEREAS, Marine Life Conservation Districts (MLCDs) are  
10 established to protect delicate ocean ecosystems pursuant to  
11 chapter 190, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and the Department of Land  
12 and Natural Resources regulates certain activities in these  
13 areas, such as requiring permits for the taking of marine life  
14 for scientific, education, or other public purposes; and  
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16           WHEREAS, while the Department, subject to chapter 91,  
17 Hawaii Revised Statutes, may adopt rules for the regulation of  
18 anchoring, mooring, and recreational boating in each MLCD, there  
19 are currently no administrative rules specifically prohibiting  
20 recreational boating use in MLCDs, although certain rules exist  
21 relating to the anchoring and mooring of a vessel at Molokini  
22 Shoal MLCD, Old Kona Airport MLCD, and Waiopae Tidepools MLCD;  
23 and  
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25           WHEREAS, due to the highly fragile nature of the ocean  
26 ecosystems found in these conservation areas, ideally, only  
27 activities regulated by permit should be allowed within MLCDs;  
28 now, therefore,  
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30           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
31 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
32 Session of 2023, the Department of Land and Natural Resources is  
33 requested to adopt administrative rules prohibiting recreational  
34 boating activities in Marine Life Conservation Districts; and  
35



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
3 Land and Natural Resources, Administrator of the Division of  
4 Aquatic Resources, and Administrator of the Division of Boating  
5 and Ocean Recreation.

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OFFERED BY:



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