

MAR 10 2023

SENATE CONCURRENT 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
4

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
24

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 Senate of the Thirty-second
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, the Department of Land and



Natural Resources is requested to adopt administrative rules prohibiting recreational boating activities in Marine Life Conservation Districts; and

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

OFFERED BY:

Domènec R. Arang

