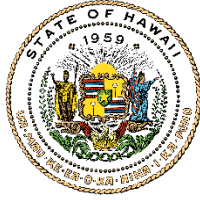


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of
DAWN N.S. CHANG
Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on
WATER AND LAND

Monday, February 6, 2023
1:05 P.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

In consideration of
SENATE BILL 1028
RELATING TO VESSELS

Senate Bill 1028 proposes to require rental kayaks to be registered and numbered with the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) and have the identification number affixed to the rental kayak. **The Department supports this measure.**

The Department currently has a commercial equipment registration process in place, and this can be expanded to include rental kayaks. The Department could create a separate decal for rental kayaks so Enforcement Officers can distinguish between commercial tour operators and rental companies. Currently, the Department does not consider the renting of equipment to individuals for personal use as commercial activity. Kayak operators who escort paying customers into State waters are considered commercial and are issued commercial use permits.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.

DAWN N.S. CHANG
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT

LAURA H.E. KAAKUA
FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES
ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS



Ka Moku'aina 'O Hawai'i Aha Moku O Pae'Aina

State of Hawai'i Aha Moku

P. O. Box 621

Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

Testimony of the Hawaii State Aha Moku
Before the Senate Committee on Water and Land

Monday, February 6, 2023

1:00 PM

Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

IN SUPPORT of Senate Bill 1028

Relating to Vessels

Senate Bill 1028 mandates that beginning 1/1/24, rental kayaks are to be registered and numbered with the department of land and natural resources and have the identification number affixed to the rental kayak. It requires the department to establish fees for registration and registration renewal of rental kayaks.

The Hawaii State Aha Moku (Aha Moku) supports this measure and offers comments.

For the majority of the main Hawaiian Islands – Moku O Keawe (Hawaii), Moku O Piilani (Maui), Nana'i Kaula (Lana'i), Moku O Kakuhihewa (O'ahu), and Manokalanipo (Kaua'i) rental kayaks have become increasingly popular with tourists causing concern of residents and native Hawaiian communities. While the beauty of natural resources beguile visitors and are always welcome, they often do not understand safe areas, currents, weather and other natural pitfalls they may fall into.

Registered rental kayaks will help with the safety issues on all islands. However, there are also kayaks that are bought and sold that may avoid the registration process. This kuleana will fall onto the DLNR Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) and possibly The Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement (DOCARE) who will need to address the infractions of this rule. While we agree that all fees and penalties collected shall be deposited in the boating special fund, we also feel that part of these fees be deposited into a DOCARE special fund to be used possibly for recruitment of much needed new officers and equipment.

Thank you for the opportunity to address additional concerns and hope they will be considered should this measure move forward.

Respectfully,

Leimana DaMate, Luna Alaka'i/Executive Director

Hawaii State Aha Moku

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*Pae'Aina: Moku O Keawe, Moku O Piilani, Moku O Kanaloa, Nana'i Kaula, Moloka'i Pule O'o, Moku O Kakuhihewa,
Manokalanipo, Ka'Aina O Kawelonakala*