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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE PARKS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Makena state park is  
2 a unique community resource not only for south Maui but for all  
3 the people of the island. As with other state beach parks, the  
4 increase in tourism volume has resulted in an excess of visitor  
5 traffic to Makena state park, necessitating further investment  
6 in this iconic area.

7           The legislature also finds that because of the increase of  
8 visitors, amenities offered at the park are being stretched and  
9 park upkeep and maintenance are being tested. The legislature  
10 finds that when the same phenomenon created a strain at Haena  
11 and Waianapanapa state parks, a tourism management plan was put  
12 into place. The plan allowed for the generation of additional  
13 revenue from the increased traffic and ensured that residents'  
14 public access to these important community assets would be  
15 preserved.

16           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
17 moneys for the office of planning and sustainable development to



1 conduct a carrying capacity study, which shall be submitted to  
2 the legislature by July 1, 2024.

3 SECTION 2. (a) The office of planning and sustainable  
4 development shall conduct a carrying capacity study of Makena  
5 state park in the county of Maui. The study shall:

6 (1) Include an assessment of the carrying capacity of  
7 Makena state park, including an estimate of the number  
8 of persons and the amount of human activity that the  
9 park can sustain without degrading natural resources,  
10 cultural resources, or experiences by visitors and  
11 residents;

12 (2) Assess the effectiveness of existing use restrictions  
13 and management practices, including current park  
14 hours, entrance fees, and parking fees;

15 (3) Assess the potential effectiveness of:  
16 (A) Mandatory or voluntary closures of high traffic,  
17 naturally sensitive, or culturally sensitive  
18 areas of the park; and  
19 (B) Other visitor use restrictions or management  
20 practices; and



1 (4) Propose long-term management options to reduce the  
2 impact of humans on the health and abundance of  
3 natural resources, cultural resources, and native  
4 species within the park.

5 (b) In conducting the study, the office of planning and  
6 sustainable development shall consult with the county of Maui,  
7 relevant community organizations, and other relevant entities.

8 (c) The office of planning and sustainable development  
9 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
10 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature by  
11 July 1, 2024.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for  
15 the office of planning and sustainable development to conduct a  
16 carrying capacity study of Makena state park in the county of  
17 Maui.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
19 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this  
20 Act.



**1** SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Makena State Park; Carrying Capacity; Study; Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Report to Legislature; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to conduct a study of the carrying capacity of Makena State Park in Maui County. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

