
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 190D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§190D- Seabed mining; permits; prohibited. (a)
5 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, except as provided by
6 this section, the removal of minerals from the seabed shall be
7 prohibited in state marine waters.

8 (b) Subsection (a) shall not:

9 (1) Apply to the collection of sand from state marine
10 waters to replenish beaches in the State; provided
11 that prior approval from the board is obtained;

12 (2) Be construed to prohibit scientific research or
13 collections conducted by, or on behalf of, an
14 educational, scientific, or research institution or a
15 governmental agency; or



1 (3) Be construed to diminish, alter, or amend any existing
2 rights relating to traditional native Hawaiian
3 cultural practices.

4 (c) No permit shall be issued for the mooring, docking, or
5 operation of any vessel designed or intended for any purpose
6 prohibited by this section.

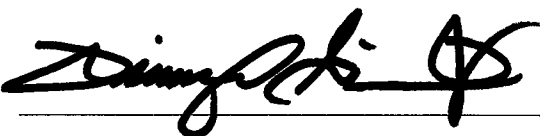
7 (d) As used in this section, "minerals" means natural
8 deposits of valuable minerals, including metals and placer
9 deposits of metals, nonmetallic minerals, gemstones, ores, gold,
10 silver, copper, lead, iron, manganese, silica, chrome, platinum,
11 tungsten, zirconium, titanium, garnet, phosphorous, polymetallic
12 nodules, and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts."

13 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
14 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
15 begun before its effective date.

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

18

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 22 2024



H.B. NO. 2201

Report Title:

Environmental Protection; Deep Sea Mining; Permits; Prohibitions

Description:

Generally prohibits the removal of minerals from the seabed in all state marine waters. Prohibits the issuance of permits for the mooring, docking, or operation of any vessel designed or intended for removal of minerals from the seabed. Provides for exceptions relating to beach replenishment, research purposes, and native Hawaiian cultural practices.

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