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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PORT INFRASTRUCTURE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that maintenance dredging  
2 is critical to the maintenance of small boat harbors, channels,  
3 ramps, and other port infrastructure in the State. The  
4 legislature further finds that the current system of waiting  
5 until dredging is imminent to appropriate funds and only then  
6 initiating the permitting process creates a haphazard system for  
7 both the allocation of money and the issuance of permits. This  
8 disorganized process sometimes contributes to worsened  
9 conditions at these facilities when increased amounts of marine  
10 sediment and foreign debris accumulate, sometimes up to such a  
11 height that, if not cleared immediately, can damage the hulls of  
12 ships. These conditions can potentially cause a shutdown of the  
13 affected sites, which are important for recreation and  
14 subsistence fishing and use by the general public, for safety  
15 reasons.

16           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
17 department of land and natural resources to conduct maintenance



1 dredging at state small boat harbors, boat launch ramp  
2 facilities, and other state boating facilities and waterways,  
3 including design, permitting, and dredging work, as identified  
4 by the department of land and natural resources.

5 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
6 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
8 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
9 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
10 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by  
11 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
12 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
13 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
14 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
15 ceiling are that:

- 16 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
17 serve the public interest; and
- 18 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
19 addressed by this Act.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the  
2 purpose of conducting maintenance dredging at state small boat  
3 harbors, boat launch ramp facilities, and other state boating  
4 facilities and waterways, including design, permitting, and  
5 dredging work, as identified by the department of land and  
6 natural resources.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
8 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. Beginning with fiscal year 2025-2026 and each  
10 fiscal year thereafter, the department of land and natural  
11 resources shall include in its annual budget request line-item  
12 funding for maintenance dredging at state boating facilities.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.



**Report Title:**

DLNR; Maintenance Dredging; Port Infrastructure; Report;  
Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources on an annual basis to conduct maintenance dredging at state small boat harbors, boat launch ramp facilities, and waterways. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. (SD1)

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

