

MAR 07 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HONOLULU OCEAN SAFETY DEPARTMENT TO IMPLEMENT A DRONE TRAINING PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, drone training programs for ocean safety personnel
2 assist in detecting marine life activities, enhancing lifeguard
3 operations, and improve search and rescue missions; and

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5 WHEREAS, aerial surveillance improves overall operational
6 efficiency and has been utilized by the Honolulu Fire
7 Department; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Fire Department expanded its drone
10 program to assist in ocean-related emergency responses; and

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12 WHEREAS, drones aid in delivering flotation devices,
13 locating stranded swimmers, providing aerial surveillance during
14 ocean rescues, and detecting marine life; and

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16 WHEREAS, in November 2024, drone footage revealed hundreds
17 of sandbar sharks in Nanakuli, near Kahe Point Beach Park, and
18 shark warning signs were posted over a hundred times on Oahu in
19 2024; and

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21 WHEREAS, on May 29, 2024, the Mayor of the City and County
22 of Honolulu signed a resolution creating the Honolulu Ocean
23 Safety Department as a separate department to provide ocean
24 safety services for the island of Oahu, including ocean rescue,
25 prevention, emergency medical first response, dispatched mobile
26 patrol, education, outreach, and injury prevention programs, all
27 related to ocean safety; and

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29 WHEREAS, the Honolulu Ocean Safety Department does not have
30 a drone training program and is not equipped to conduct aerial
31 surveillance of the beaches and near shore waters in the City
32 and County of Honolulu; now, therefore,

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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
36 that the Honolulu Ocean Safety Department is strongly urged to



1 implement a drone training program to elevate lifeguard
2 operations and strengthen marine life monitoring; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
6 Honolulu, Managing Director of the City and County of Honolulu,
7 and Director of the Honolulu Ocean Safety Department.

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OFFERED BY:



