
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUNTING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that hunting provides
2 significant ecological benefits for the State. For example,
3 hunting is an important tool to control the population of
4 certain invasive species, such as axis deer and feral goats. If
5 left unchecked by hunters, these species may overgraze
6 grasslands and forests, destroying fragile native plants and
7 habitats. Hunting is critical to preventing this ecological
8 damage, protecting endangered native species, and controlling
9 erosion.

10 The legislature further finds that many local families rely
11 on wild game meat for sustenance, which helps to maintain public
12 health, reduce overreliance on imported food, and further the
13 State's sustainability goals. For many local families, hunting
14 also has deep cultural and social significance, helping to
15 maintain a link to the past while creating recreational
16 opportunities for individuals to maintain social links with
17 family members and friends.



1 Despite these benefits, the legislature finds that there is
2 a shortage of public lands available for hunting, limiting
3 access to this important activity.

4 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
5 department of land and natural resources to identify the most
6 appropriate public lands of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, and
7 Hawaii, that may become designated as public hunting areas for
8 the hunting of game birds and game mammals without conflicting
9 with other land uses.

10 SECTION 2. (a) No later than December 31, 2026, the
11 department of land and natural resources shall identify public
12 lands on each of the islands of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, and
13 Hawaii, that are the most appropriate for becoming designated as
14 public hunting areas for the hunting of game birds and game
15 mammals. Any public land identified pursuant to this subsection
16 shall not conflict with any other use of the public land
17 identified.

18 (b) The department of land and natural resources shall
19 submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty days
20 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2027 that
21 includes:



- 1 (1) The department's progress in complying with subsection
2 (a) for each applicable island;
- 3 (2) If the department is not in compliance with the
4 requirements of subsection (a) for a particular
5 island, the reasons for the non-compliance; and
- 6 (3) Any other findings and recommendations, including any
7 proposed legislation.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



S.B. NO. 2130
S.D. 1

Report Title:

DLNR; Public Lands; Hunting Access; Public Hunting Areas; Report

Description:

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to identify public lands on each island of Kauai, Oahu, Molokai, Lanai, and Hawaii, that may be newly designated as public hunting areas for the hunting of game birds and game mammals without conflicting with other land uses. Requires a report to the Legislature. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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