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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OAHU CORAL REEF RESTORATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that herbivorous reef  
2 fish species are essential to maintaining the health and  
3 resilience of state coral reefs. However, the legislature notes  
4 that the population of coral reef herbivores, while declining  
5 throughout the State, are especially threatened by the impacts  
6 of the high human population density of the island of Oahu.

7           The legislature recognizes that the department of land and  
8 natural resources has implemented the Holomua marine initiative  
9 in consultation with fishers, cultural practitioners, and  
10 community representatives to address nearshore issues, including  
11 the decline of herbivorous reef species, and develop statewide  
12 strategies for the successful stewardship of nearshore waters.  
13 While the Holomua marine initiative has implemented and  
14 established several improvements to the well-being of nearshore  
15 ecosystems, the initiative has not yet adopted regulations  
16 pursuant to rules adopted by the board of land and natural  
17 resources for the island of Oahu that will restore populations



1 of herbivorous reef species to levels that prevent seaweed from  
2 smothering the coral reefs.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the  
4 department of land and natural resources' division of aquatic  
5 resources to begin the Holomua marine initiative process no  
6 later than July 1, 2026, to address coral reef restoration on  
7 Oahu.

8 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources'  
9 division of aquatic resources' shall begin the Holomua marine  
10 initiative process no later than July 1, 2026, to address coral  
11 reef restoration on Oahu.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Holomua Marine Initiative; DLNR; DAR; Oahu Coral Reef  
Restoration

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Division of Aquatic Resources to begin the Holomua Marine Initiative process no later than 7/1/2026 to address coral reef restoration on Oahu. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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