

## ACT 137

S. B. NO. 1157-70

A Bill for an Act Creating the Position of a Marine Affairs Coordinator in the Office of the Governor.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. **Findings and declaration of necessity.** The legislature finds that:

- (a) The marine environment is one of Hawaii's most valuable assets. It has shaped the uniqueness of the way of life in Hawaii, and it has contributed to the major elements of the State's economy. Hawaii can secure even greater benefits from the judicious use of the resources in and around the sea if it energetically coordinates the development of technology needed to exploit these resources, the promotion of marine businesses, and the establishment of programs dedicated to a better understanding and knowledge of the marine environment.
- (b) There is a need for a planned and concerted effort to explore and develop to their fullest potential the vast, under-utilized resources of the Pacific Ocean. In view of its mid-Pacific location, unique oceanographic environment and other advantages, Hawaii can take the lead in fostering the development of the ocean's resources, consistent with

State and national goals of economic growth, international development assistance, and cooperation with neighbors in the Pacific basin.

- (c) The development and utilization of marine resources require the deep involvement of state government. Responsibilities and authorities already exist in the various agencies of state government to address many of the opportunities and problems that may arise in marine affairs in the foreseeable future. However, there is no mechanism to bring a unified and coordinated approach to marine activities that cut across the responsibilities of the various agencies of state government.
- (d) If Hawaii is to capitalize on the immediate and long-term opportunities for the fullest development and utilization of marine resources, it is essential that the total efforts of the State in the planning, research, development, and promotion of the marine environment must be effectively coordinated. The marine programs in existence and those being planned require a mechanism in the state government to bring about the most effective and efficient use of resources in developing the marine environment. This mechanism can best be provided through the establishment of a marine affairs coordinator in state government at a level which will make possible the coordinated management of all marine activities.

**SECTION 2. Establishment of marine affairs coordinator.** The position of marine affairs coordinator is established in the office of the governor. The governor shall appoint and remove the coordinator, who shall not be subject to chapters 76 and 77. The salary of the coordinator shall be set by the governor and shall not be more than the salary of first deputies or first assistants to department heads as prescribed by section 26-53. The coordinator shall be included in any benefit program generally applicable to the officers and employees of the State.

**SECTION 3. Powers and duties.** Subject to the governor's approval, the coordinator shall:

- (a) Develop plans, including objectives, criteria to measure accomplishment of objectives, programs through which the objectives are to be attained, and financial requirements for the total and optimum development of Hawaii's marine resources;
- (b) Conduct systematic analysis of existing and proposed marine programs, evaluate the analysis conducted by the agencies of state government and recommend to the governor and to the legislature programs which represent the most effective allocation of resources for the development of the marine environment;
- (c) Assist those departments having interests in marine affairs, coordinate those activities which involve the responsibilities of multiple State agencies, and insure the timely and effective implementation of all authorized marine projects and programs;

- (d) Establish a continuing program for informing the federal government, other state governments, governments of nations with interests in the Pacific basin, private and public organizations involved in marine science and technology, and commercial enterprises of Hawaii's leadership potential as the center for marine affairs;
- (e) Coordinate the State's involvement in national and international efforts to investigate, develop and utilize the marine resources of the Pacific basin;
- (f) Develop programs to continuously encourage private and public marine exploration and research projects which will result in the development of improved technological capabilities in Hawaii;
- (g) Formulate specific program and project proposals to solicit increased investment by the federal government and other sources to develop Hawaii's marine resources and coordinate the preparation and submission of program and project proposals of State agencies;
- (h) Serve as consultant to the governor, State agencies and private industry on matters related to the preservation and enhancement of the quality of Hawaii's marine environment;
- (i) Perform such other services as may be required by the governor and the legislature;
- (j) Contract for services when required for implementation of this Act; and
- (k) Prepare and submit an annual report to the governor and to the legislature on the implementation of this Act and all matters related to marine affairs.

**SECTION 4. Appropriations.** There is appropriated from the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$470,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, to be expended by the marine affairs coordinator for the following purposes:

- (a) \$30,000 for the planning and coordination of activities to hold an international marine exposition in Hawaii in 1976;
- (b) \$75,000 for the preparation and publication of a detailed atlas defining and tabulating Hawaii's marine resources;
- (c) \$25,000 for the planning, coordination and convening of a conference in Hawaii of the representatives of government, science, technology, and industry from the nations of the Pacific basin to plan the Pacific region portion of the international decade of ocean exploration;
- (d) \$50,000 for the development of preliminary plans for marine science research parks;
- (e) \$100,000 for a pilot marine resources survey of the area within boundaries set at Koko Head and the north margin of Kahana Bay on the

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island of Oahu, provided that State funds shall be matched equally by private industry and by more than twice the amount by funds provided by the federal government;

- (f) \$190,000 for the survey, research, development, and promotion of Hawaii's marine resources by private industry, provided that any expenditure of State funds shall be matched by an equal amount from private industry.

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
(Approved June 22, 1970.)