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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO  
REEVALUATE THE BOUNDARIES OF THE HILO BAY RECREATIONAL  
THRILL CRAFT ZONE.

1           WHEREAS, many of the jet ski owners and users in Hilo  
2 have raised safety issues concerning the designated Hilo Bay  
3 Recreational Thrill Craft Zone (Zone); and  
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5           WHEREAS, pursuant to section 13-256-141, Hawaii  
6 Administrative Rules, the boundaries of the Zone are defined  
7 as follows:  
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9           "Beginning at a point at the low water mark  
10 which is three thousand six hundred feet east of the  
11 tip of Hilo Breakwater; then by azimuth measured  
12 clockwise from True South, 005 degrees for a  
13 distance of one thousand one hundred feet; 095  
14 degrees for a distance of three thousand nine  
15 hundred feet; 185 degrees for a distance of two  
16 thousand feet; 275 degrees for a distance of one  
17 thousand one hundred feet; 005 degrees to the low  
18 water mark on the seaward side of the breakwater;  
19 then along the low water mark to the point of  
20 beginning.";  
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22 and  
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24           WHEREAS, since the Zone is nearly one mile away from the  
25 shoreline, thrill craft users must traverse a great distance  
26 to enter the Zone; and  
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28           WHEREAS, the distance poses a hazard to users who may  
29 encounter equipment failure on their way to or from the Zone,  
30 or who may need medical assistance if they are injured in the  
31 Zone, because of the difficulty in attracting the attention of  
32 persons on shore or on other vessels; and



1           WHEREAS, the designated area is also along the break wall  
2 at the mouth of the bay, an area where "rogue wave" accidents  
3 have occurred, claiming the lives of opihi pickers, fishermen,  
4 and others who frequent the area; and

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6           WHEREAS, in determining the boundaries of the Zone, the  
7 Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of  
8 Boating and Ocean Recreation, held a series of public hearings  
9 in the late 1980s and early 1990s as part of efforts to  
10 develop a regulatory strategy that balances the needs of all  
11 recreational users; and

12  
13           WHEREAS, based on its findings, DLNR adopted the rule  
14 establishing the boundaries of the Zone in 1994; and

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16           WHEREAS, since the adoption of the rule, the number of  
17 thrill craft users in Hilo has increased significantly while  
18 the recreational needs of other citizens, such as canoe  
19 paddlers and small boat enthusiasts, have changed; moreover,  
20 port security requirements have also changed since September  
21 11, 2001; and

22  
23           WHEREAS, there is a need for DLNR to reevaluate this rule  
24 to ensure that the boundaries of the Zone balance the  
25 recreational needs and safety concerns of all users; and

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27           WHEREAS, in 2002, DLNR submitted a report to the  
28 Legislature re-evaluating the boundaries of the Zone, pursuant  
29 to House Concurrent Resolution No. 56 (2001); and

30  
31           WHEREAS, because no rule amendments were adopted and  
32 recreational and safety conditions may have changed since  
33 2001, it is appropriate and timely to reassess the need to  
34 redraw the boundary lines of the Zone; now, therefore,

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36           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
37 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
38 Session of 2006, the Senate concurring, that DLNR is requested  
39 to reevaluate the existing boundaries of the Zone; and



# H.C.R. NO. 249

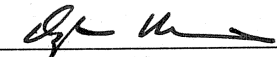
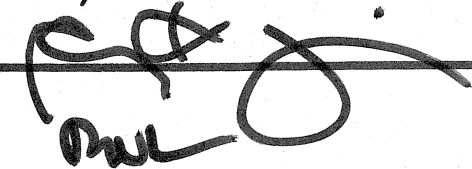
1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR take reasonable steps to  
2 obtain public comment from all segments of Hilo Bay's  
3 recreational users, including recreational thrill craft users,  
4 outrigger canoe clubs, and other recreational boating  
5 interests; and

6  
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR submit to the  
8 Legislature a status report of its efforts at least 20 days  
9 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

10  
11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
13 Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Hawaii Powerboat  
14 Recreation Association.

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OFFERED BY:

  
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MAR 15 2006

