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## HOUSE 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 have  
2 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 as  
7 follows:  
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9           "Beginning at a point at the low water mark which  
10 is three thousand six hundred feet east of the tip of  
11 Hilo Breakwater; then by azimuth measured clockwise  
12 from True South, 005 degrees for a distance of one  
13 thousand one hundred feet; 095 degrees for a distance  
14 of three thousand nine hundred feet; 185 degrees for a  
15 distance of two thousand feet; 275 degrees for a  
16 distance of one thousand one hundred feet; 005 degrees  
17 to the low water mark on the seaward side of the  
18 breakwater; then along the low water mark to the point  
19 of beginning.";  
20

21 and  
22

23           WHEREAS, since the Zone is nearly one mile away from the  
24 shoreline, thrill craft users must traverse a great distance to  
25 enter the Zone; and  
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27           WHEREAS, the distance poses a hazard to users who may  
28 encounter equipment failure on their way to or from the Zone, or  
29 who may need medical assistance if they are injured in the Zone,  
30 because of the difficulty in attracting the attention of persons  
31 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 develop  
10 a regulatory strategy that balances the needs of all  
11 recreational users; and  
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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 the  
18 recreational needs of other citizens, such as canoe paddlers and  
19 small boat enthusiasts, have changed; moreover, port security  
20 requirements have also changed since September 11, 2001; and  
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22           WHEREAS, there is a need for DLNR to reevaluate this rule  
23 to ensure that the boundaries of the Zone balance the  
24 recreational needs and safety concerns of all users; and  
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26           WHEREAS, in 2002, DLNR submitted a report to the  
27 Legislature re-evaluating the boundaries of the Zone, pursuant  
28 to House Concurrent Resolution No. 56 (2001); and  
29

30           WHEREAS, because no rule amendments were adopted and  
31 recreational and safety conditions may have changed since 2001,  
32 it is appropriate and timely to reassess the need to redraw the  
33 boundary lines of the Zone; now, therefore,  
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35           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
36 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
37 of 2006, that DLNR is requested to reevaluate the existing  
38 boundaries of the Zone; and

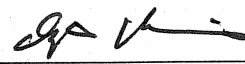
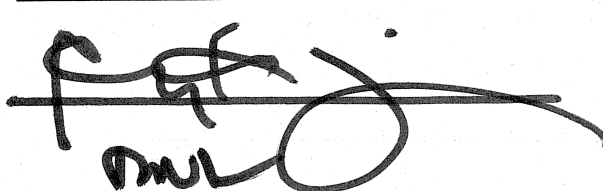


1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR take reasonable steps to  
2 obtain public comment from all segments of Hilo Bay's  
3 recreational users, including recreational thrill craft users,  
4 outrigger canoe clubs, and other recreational boating interests;  
5 and  
6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR submit to the Legislature  
8 a status report of its efforts at least 20 days prior to the  
9 convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
13 Land and Natural Resources and the Hawaii Powerboat Recreation  
14 Association.  
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OFFERED BY:

  
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MAR 15 2006

