
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO IMMEDIATELY REMOVE THE DERELICT
SAILBOAT "DOLPHIN" FROM THE REEF IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS
HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY AREA FACING FRONT
STREET, LAHAINA, MAUI.

1 WHEREAS, the Front Street area of Lahaina between the
2 Lahaina Small Boat Harbor and the Lahaina Center is the visual
3 centerpiece for the historic district of Lahaina town and is
4 featured in numerous television shows, magazine articles,
5 newspapers, and Internet sites worldwide; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the State has spent millions of taxpayer dollars
8 promoting this area of Lahaina and used it to market Maui as a
9 tourist destination; and
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11 WHEREAS, in 2003, a recreational sailboat named "Dolphin"
12 ran aground on the inside reef of Lahaina Harbor, in plain view
13 from Front Street, and has remained stranded on the reef
14 creating a permanent blight on this popular, world-renowned
15 view; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the wreckage of the "Dolphin" has given a negative
18 impression on the millions of visitors who visit Lahaina each
19 year and reflects badly on the community and the people of
20 Lahaina, of Maui, as well as of the State of Hawaii; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the "Dolphin," which remains on the reef today,
23 continues to destroy the fragile reef system and contaminate the
24 nearby marine ecosystem; and
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26 WHEREAS, the state Department of Land and Natural Resources
27 (DLNR) has been unable to remove the vessel from the reef due to
28 the complexity involved in, and funds, equipment, and manpower
29 necessary for the removal of the steel hull; and



1 WHEREAS, the various agencies of the federal government
2 such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the
3 United States Coast Guard, and the Department of the Navy, have
4 the necessary manpower, equipment, and resources to remove the
5 wreckage from the reef; and

6
7 WHEREAS, the wreckage of the "Dolphin" lies within the
8 waters of the federal Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National
9 Marine Sanctuary and the environmental damage to the reef and
10 surrounding ecosystem caused by the vessel compromises the
11 integrity of this habitat; and

12
13 WHEREAS, the visual blight caused by the "Dolphin" and the
14 aesthetic damage caused by this derelict vessel is also damaging
15 to the reputation of this important National Marine Sanctuary;
16 and

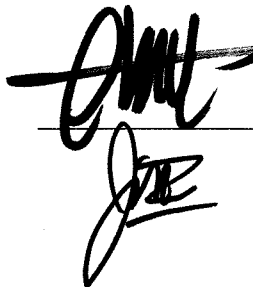
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18 WHEREAS, the federal government has the authority to
19 provide for the protection of National Marine Sanctuary areas
20 and has conducted various federal operations in this and other
21 National Marine Sanctuaries in the past; now, therefore,

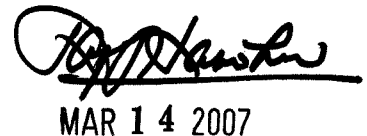
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
25 Session of 2007, that the federal government is urged to
26 immediately execute operations to remove the sailboat "Dolphin"
27 from the reef in the National Marine Sanctuary area facing Front
28 Street, Lahaina, Maui; and

29
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States,
32 the members of Hawaii's Congressional Delegation, the United
33 States Secretary of Commerce, the Administrator of the National
34 Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Commandant of the United
35 States Coast Guard, the Secretary of the Navy, and the Chair of
36 the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale Sanctuary Advisory Council.

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39 OFFERED BY:






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