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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONTINUE AND EXPAND ITS EFFORTS TO RESPONSIBLY IDENTIFY PLACES THAT CAN SUSTAIN THE IMPACT OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLE OPERATION AND TO EVALUATE THE POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING THE DAYS AND HOURS OF OPERATION OF EXISTING SITES THAT PERMIT OPERATION OF OFF-ROAD VEHICLES.

1 WHEREAS, the use and operation of off-road vehicles such as  
2 motorcycles, all terrain vehicles, dune buggies, and dirt bikes  
3 has the potential to desecrate sacred burial grounds, further  
4 threaten already endangered species, and harm the natural  
5 ecosystem on public lands; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, many people have expressed concerns about the  
8 ongoing use of off-road vehicles on Hawaii's beaches; and

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10 WHEREAS, the proximity of urban and residential areas in  
11 Hawaii make it difficult to provide the kind of off-road vehicle  
12 opportunities on public land that are available on the mainland;  
13 and

14  
15 WHEREAS, at present, the use and operation of motorcycles,  
16 all terrain vehicles, dune buggies, and dirt bikes is prohibited  
17 on unencumbered state land, state parks, forest reserves, and  
18 public hunting areas; and

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20 WHEREAS, all motorized vehicles are prohibited from  
21 operating on beaches, through vegetation, or on any other area  
22 that is not a designated roadway and violators are subject to  
23 citation, arrest, or both, and the motorized equipment may be  
24 seized and subject to forfeiture; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1891, Relating to Land Use, is now  
27 pending before the Legislature and would, in addition to  
28 existing civil penalties, make violation of chapter 171, Hawaii  
29 Revised Statutes, relating to public lands and rules adopted  
30 thereunder a petty misdemeanor; and

31



1 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources is  
 2 charged with the management, administration, and control of  
 3 public lands and administers state parks, historical sites,  
 4 forests, forest reserves, wildlife, wildlife sanctuaries, game  
 5 management areas, public hunting areas, natural area reserves;  
 6 and

7  
 8 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has  
 9 been working to develop relationships with the off-road vehicle  
 10 community to responsibly identify places that can sustain the  
 11 impact of the operation of off-road vehicles and to avoid damage  
 12 to resources in sensitive areas from outlaw-style riding; and

13  
 14 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources  
 15 manages and has designated for authorized off-road vehicle use  
 16 fifteen miles of trail on thirty-five square miles of terrain in  
 17 a portion of the Waiakea Timber Management Area; and

18  
 19 WHEREAS, a riding area on state land in Kahuku, Oahu, was  
 20 developed in the late 1970s, but the land is subject to a lease  
 21 agreement with the Army, which restricts public use to weekends  
 22 and holidays only and closes the area completely during military  
 23 training periods; and

24  
 25 WHEREAS, the island of Lanai has miles of private lands  
 26 where, through an agreement with the Lanai Company, off-road  
 27 vehicles are allowed to ride on game management area roads  
 28 maintained by the Department of Land and Natural Resources; and

29  
 30 WHEREAS, on the island of Kauai, the Department of Land and  
 31 Natural Resources manages more than eighty-eight miles of roads  
 32 that are accessible to off-road vehicles, most of which are  
 33 located within the State Forest Reserve and are access roads  
 34 that lead to hunting areas; and

35  
 36 WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has  
 37 set up an initial working group on Maui to survey off-highway  
 38 vehicle riders about numbers, riding preferences, and related  
 39 issues, for identification of suitable riding areas on public  
 40 lands or private land; now, therefore,

41  
 42 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
 43 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,  
 44 that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is requested  
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1 to continue and expand its efforts to identify places that can  
2 sustain the impact of off-road vehicle operation; and  
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
5 Natural Resources is requested to assess the feasibility of  
6 expanding the days and hours of operation of existing sites that  
7 permit operation of off-road vehicles; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
10 Natural Resources is requested to develop and implement an off-  
11 road vehicle registration policy and user guidelines for  
12 designated sites that permit the operation of off-road vehicles;  
13 and  
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
17 Land and Natural Resources.

