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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GROUNDED VESSELS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. Section 200-47.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) Solely for the purposes of removal and with no  
4 liability to the department, the department may assume control  
5 of any vessel that:

6 (1) Is grounded on a coral reef or in imminent danger of  
7 breaking up; and

8 (2) Cannot be immediately removed by the owner within  
9 seventy-two hours in a manner that is reasonably safe,  
10 as determined by the department.

11 Once the department assumes control over the vessel, the vessel  
12 shall be [~~directed to a safer location.~~] removed by any means  
13 necessary to minimize damages to the natural resources and not  
14 become a hazard to navigation. All costs and expenses of  
15 removing the vessel and damages to state or private property  
16 shall be the sole responsibility of the vessel's owner or  
17 operator. This section shall apply whether the vessel is  
18 attended or deemed derelict under section 200-48."



1 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Grounded Vessels

**Description:**

Authorizes the Department of Land and Natural Resources to remove a grounded vessel under its control, by any means necessary, in order to minimize damages to the natural resources and not become a hazard to navigation. (HB3173 HD1)

