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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING COMMERCIAL TOUR OPERATORS TO STOP RELEASING RAW SEWAGE  
WITHIN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS HUMPBACK WHALE NATIONAL MARINE  
SANCTUARY, AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND  
NATURAL RESOURCES TO ADOPT RULES PROHIBITING THE DUMPING OF  
RAW SEWAGE WITHIN THE SANCTUARY AND ENSURE THE HARBORS ARE  
EQUIPPED WITH PROPER PUMP OUT FACILITIES.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii's marine waters are vitally important not  
2 only as a resource for the people of Hawaii but also for the  
3 health of the tourism industry and the state economy in general;  
4 and

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6           WHEREAS, the welfare of both the state's unique marine  
7 resources and its tourism industry is a priority for both the  
8 State as well as the tour boat industry; and

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10          WHEREAS, it is common practice for commercial tour boat  
11 operators to release raw sewage and other waste matter three  
12 miles or more offshore, as allowed by federal maritime laws; and

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14          WHEREAS, this sewage and waste matter contains toxins such  
15 as formaldehyde, ammonium chloride, and zinc sulfate, in a  
16 highly concentrated form, and can cause illnesses, such as  
17 hepatitis, typhoid, cholera, dysentery, gastroenteritis, and  
18 staphylococcus; and

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20          WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of the role the  
21 Hawaiian islands play in the preservation and long-term vitality  
22 of the endangered humpback whale, the Hawaiian Islands Humpback  
23 Whale National Marine Sanctuary (Sanctuary) was established in  
24 1992 for the protection of the ecological habitat necessary for  
25 the recovery of this protected species; and

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27          WHEREAS, a portion of the Sanctuary is located within the  
28 permitted dumping area; and



1 WHEREAS, some socially and environmentally conscious tour  
2 boat operators have taken the initiative to hire the service of  
3 a private pump company to pump out their wastewater systems  
4 onshore; and

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6 WHEREAS, all tour boat operators should follow their lead  
7 and cease releasing raw sewage within or near the Sanctuary; and

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9 WHEREAS, state harbors must be properly equipped with  
10 pumping facilities that are necessary for the tour boat  
11 operators to pump out their wastewater systems; now, therefore,

12  
13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
14 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
15 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that all commercial tour boat  
16 operators are urged to cease releasing raw sewage within the  
17 Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
20 Natural Resources (DLNR) is requested to adopt rules prohibiting  
21 the dumping of raw sewage within or near the Hawaiian Islands  
22 Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, including enforcement  
23 provisions; and

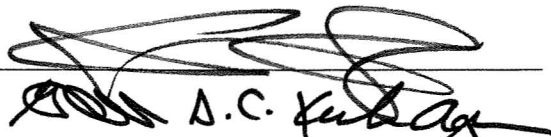
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DLNR is also requested to  
26 ensure the construction and installation of adequate pump out  
27 facilities at all state harbors for compliance with sewage  
28 dumping prohibitions; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
32 Board of Land and Natural Resources.

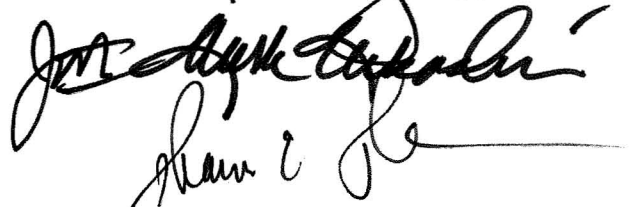
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OFFERED BY:



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