
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAWAII SURFING RESERVES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that designating Hawaii
2 surfing reserves would recognize those surf sites and
3 acknowledge their environmental, cultural, sports, and historic
4 significance in Hawaii. Designation of a Hawaii surfing reserve
5 would raise awareness about the importance of protecting,
6 nourishing, and developing Hawaii's world famous surf sites.
7 Designation of a Hawaii surfing reserve would not limit
8 enjoyment of the designated area.

9 A Hawaii surfing reserve designation achieves three
10 purposes:

11 (1) Formal worldwide recognition of the sites as surfing
12 areas that have quality surf and significant cultural,
13 historical, recreational, and competitive sports
14 value;

15 (2) Recognition of the long and close relationship between
16 surfers and the ocean; and



1 (3) Promoting the long term preservation of Hawaii surfing
2 reserves for recreation and competitive surfing.

3 To date, Australia has designated several areas as surfing
4 reserves and New Zealand has considered taking similar action to
5 protect its coastal environment.

6 The purpose of this Act is to designate the surfs of
7 Waikiki and the area from Haleiwa to Sunset beach on the north
8 shore of Oahu as Hawaii surfing reserves.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
10 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
11 read as follows:

12 "§6E- Hawaii surfing reserves. (a) There is
13 established the Waikiki Hawaii surfing reserve, which shall
14 include the area of Oahu bounded by the Ala Wai and the Waikiki
15 War Memorial Natatorium that includes all surf breaks; and the
16 north shore Hawaii surfing reserve, which shall include the area
17 of the north shore of Oahu from Ali'i beach in Haleiwa to Sunset
18 beach and includes all surf breaks. Each Hawaii surfing reserve
19 shall extend from the high water mark and include all surf
20 breaks within the defined reserve.

21 (b) In connection with surfing reserves, the department
22 shall:



1 (1) Recognize that recreational and competitive surfing in
2 all its forms is an asset to the State of Hawaii;

3 (2) Assist in placing appropriate signs or markers
4 provided by the surfing community, other
5 organizations, or individuals, which are designed to
6 commemorate and identify the respective surfing
7 reserves; and

8 (3) Assist in promoting federal, state, and county
9 collaboration in nourishing and protecting Hawaii
10 surfing reserves.

11 (c) For the purpose of this section:

12 "Surfer" means any person who interacts physically with the
13 surf for recreation, including activities such as bodysurfing,
14 body boarding, surfing, surfskiing, surfboating, and all forms
15 of surf lifesaving and lifeguarding including tow-in surfing;
16 provided that riding waves on machines shall be excluded.

17 "Hawaii surfing reserve" means a part of the coastal
18 environment recognized by the community for the cultural and
19 historical quality and consistency of its surf and its long-term
20 and ongoing relationship between the surf and surfers. A Hawaii
21 surfing reserve includes the beach and adjacent surf zone from
22 the high water mark and may include features of the marine and



1 coastal zone that intrinsically enhance aspects of the surfing
2 experience."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 2, 2040.

5



Report Title:

Hawaii Surfing Reserves; Waikiki; North Shore

Description:

Designates Waikiki and certain area of the north shore of Oahu as Hawaii surfing reserves; effective 7/1/2040. (SD1)

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