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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HUNTING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's use of  
2 aerial hunting of wild sheep and goats to comply with a federal  
3 court order to protect the habitat of the endangered bird  
4 species *palila* has raised many issues. These include the  
5 conditions under which hunting from aircraft should be allowed,  
6 who shall be allowed to hunt from aircraft, conflicts in best  
7 hunting practices when aircraft are used in a hunt, and the  
8 humane nature of aerial hunting.

9           The purpose of this Act is to establish the conditions  
10 under which aerial hunting is allowed in the State, including  
11 the use of aircraft in disease control and animal population  
12 control efforts as ordered by the courts.

13           SECTION 2. Chapter 183D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16           "§183D-           Hunting from aircraft; permissible activities.

17           (a) Aircraft may be used as provided in subsection (b) to  
18 conduct a hunt program in areas that are inaccessible by foot or



1 by vehicle or to retrieve carcasses generated by hunts conducted  
2 pursuant to this section.

3 (b) Hunting from aircraft shall be conducted only:

4 (1) For the purposes of emergency animal disease control  
5 or pursuant to court order; and

6 (2) By an authorized employee or agent of a federal or  
7 state agency or any person authorized by the State;

8 provided that, prior to conducting any hunt pursuant to this  
9 subsection, the department shall consult with hunter advocacy  
10 groups in the area of the proposed hunt to determine whether  
11 best hunting practices exist that are a preferable alternative  
12 to an aerial hunt; provided further that if a dispute exists  
13 between the department and hunter advocacy groups on this issue,  
14 the board of land and natural resources shall make a  
15 determination on the best method to eradicate the game of  
16 concern.

17 (c) Animal carcasses generated by a hunt conducted by a  
18 hunt pursuant to this section shall be retrieved and properly  
19 disposed of within twenty-four hours of the completion of the  
20 hunt."

21 SECTION 3. Section 263-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
22 amended to read as follows:



H.B. NO. 2000

1       "§263-10 Hunting from aircraft; penalty. (a) Any  
 2 aeronaut or passenger who, while in flight in, across, or above  
 3 the State, intentionally kills or attempts to kill any birds or  
 4 animals shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished by a fine  
 5 of not more than \$1,000, or by imprisonment for not more than  
 6 one year, or both.

7       (b) Subsection (a) shall not apply to any hunt conducted  
 8 pursuant to section 183D- ."

9       SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

10       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 19 2010



**Report Title:**

Aerial Hunting

**Description:**

Permits aerial hunting only by authorized personnel in connection with emergency animal disease control or other purposes as ordered by a court. Requires the department of land and natural resources to consult with hunter advocacy groups before conducting an aerial hunt. Requires carcasses to be removed within 24 hours of the completion of an aerial hunt.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

