
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO
FACILITATE MOLOKINI SHOAL MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICT
COMMERCIAL USE PERMIT REVISION AND REISSUANCE BY CONSULTING
AND PROVIDING ADVANCED NOTICE TO PERMITTEES.

1 WHEREAS, the ocean tourism industry is a vibrant and
2 important industry to the State of Hawaii; and
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4 WHEREAS, the National Ocean Economics Program has reported
5 that Hawaii's direct ocean economy generated \$5.4 billion in
6 2004, which represents about 10.7 percent of the State's gross
7 domestic product; and
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9 WHEREAS, this industry employs almost 100,000 people with
10 total wages exceeding \$2.5 billion, making Hawaii the lead state
11 for employment in the ocean economy sector; and
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13 WHEREAS, the health of the ocean tourism industry is
14 dependent upon the health of Hawaii's unique yet fragile ocean
15 environment; and
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17 WHEREAS, the ocean and its resources must be managed to
18 accommodate not only commercial operators, but all the people of
19 Hawaii, including those with recreational and cultural interests
20 in such resources; and
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22 WHEREAS, a limited number of commercial tour operators have
23 the privilege to conduct tours to the Molokini Shoal Marine Life
24 Conservation District under permits issued by the Division of
25 Aquatic Resources of the Department of Land and Natural
26 Resources (DLNR), which are typically issued for a set amount of
27 time and subject to certain terms and conditions; and



1 WHEREAS, these terms and conditions are important for the
2 maintenance of a pristine ocean environment at Molokini, and
3 must be adjusted from time to time to respond to legitimate
4 concerns regarding the future health of ocean resources; and
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6 WHEREAS, these terms and conditions may also have an
7 important economic impact on the operation of the tours, the
8 conduct of passengers, employment and sales contracts, working
9 conditions, advertising materials, and the fulfillment of
10 expectations by those who pay to participate in such tours; and
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12 WHEREAS, thorough discussion with affected operators prior
13 to the establishment of new permit terms and conditions may
14 alleviate unnecessary impacts on their operations, while still
15 providing for the resource protection concerns that fall under
16 the primary responsibilities of DLNR; and
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18 WHEREAS, advance notice of new permit terms and conditions
19 may also provide operators adequate time to adjust their
20 operations to further alleviate such impacts; now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
24 of 2010, that DLNR, through its various divisions and by use of
25 its regulatory authority, is hereby requested, where possible,
26 and with due consideration for the protection of marine
27 resources to:
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- 29 (1) Ensure that Molokini Shoal tour operators are provided
30 with no less than 90 days written notice of any new
31 final permit conditions; and
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- 33 (2) Seek the input of Molokini Shoal tour boat operators
34 for the advisability, practicality, and ease of
35 implementation of any proposed new permit conditions;
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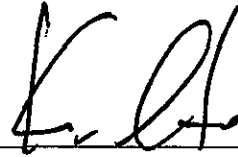
37 and
38



H.R. NO. 144

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
3 Natural Land and Resources.
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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'K. A.', written over a horizontal line.

MAR 09 2010

