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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OCEAN SAFETY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that increased  
2 recreational and commercial activities in Hawaii's nearshore  
3 waters have led to safety concerns and, in some cases, tragic  
4 results. In October 2009, a young diver died after being struck  
5 by a boat in Maunalua Bay on the island of Oahu, a bay popular  
6 with divers, swimmers, and other ocean recreational users.

7           Other nearshore areas statewide are also popular  
8 attractions for multiple ocean activities. The legislature  
9 finds that one such area is Kaanapali beach on the island of  
10 Maui. Installing safety features such as swimming buoys there  
11 to more clearly delineate areas reserved for differing uses  
12 would ensure greater safety. The legislature also finds that  
13 given the popularity of ocean activities in nearshore areas  
14 statewide, a comprehensive safety review of all nearshore areas  
15 is warranted.

16           The purpose of this Act is to improve ocean safety by:



- 1           (1)    Requiring the department of land and natural resources
- 2                   to review the safety records of nearshore areas
- 3                   statewide; and
- 4           (2)    Appropriating funds for swimming buoys at Kaanapali
- 5                   beach.

6           SECTION 2.   (a)   The department of land and natural

7 resources shall review the safety records of nearshore areas

8 statewide, including the range and frequency of ocean activities

9 in each designated nearshore area; any accidents, injuries, and

10 fatalities attributable to the activities; and the success or

11 failure of any safety features such as swimming buoys

12 implemented to ensure public safety.

13           (b)    The department shall report to the legislature the

14 results of the review, including any recommendations for

15 increasing public safety in nearshore waters, no later than

16 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2012 regular session.

17           SECTION 3.   There is appropriated out of the general

18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so

19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 for

20 swimming buoys at Kaanapali beach for the purpose of increasing

21 the safety of swimmers.



1           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
2 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

3           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

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**Report Title:**

Ocean Safety; Swimming Buoys; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the department of land and natural resources to review the safety records of nearshore areas statewide; appropriates funds for swimming buoys at Kaanapali beach. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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

