
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUATIC RESOURCES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the protection of
2 aquatic resources is important for cultural, economic, and
3 environmental reasons. Wise management of aquatic resources is
4 necessary to ensure that these resources are available for
5 future generations.

6 The legislature also finds that fishing licensing programs
7 are an effective way to protect and conserve aquatic resources.
8 Currently, the State requires persons who take marine life for
9 commercial purposes to first obtain a commercial marine license.
10 State law also requires commercial marine licensees, upon
11 request from the department of land and natural resources, to
12 provide the department with a report of marine life taken.
13 However, there are no equivalent licensing or reporting
14 requirements for noncommercial marine fishing. The
15 implementation of a noncommercial fishing license program and
16 the gathering of more accurate data relating to the species of
17 fish that are taken, the amounts that are taken, and the areas
18 of the State from which fish are taken would allow the



1 department of land and natural resources to more effectively
2 manage the State's aquatic resources.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Require the department of land and natural resources
- 5 to conduct a study examining the feasibility of
- 6 establishing a noncommercial fishing license program;
- 7 and
- 8 (2) Appropriate funds for the department to conduct the
- 9 study.

10 SECTION 2. (a) The department of land and natural
11 resources shall conduct a study examining the feasibility of
12 establishing a noncommercial fishing license program. The study
13 shall consider:

- 14 (1) Whether a noncommercial fishing license program should
- 15 be established;
- 16 (2) Terms and conditions for licensure;
- 17 (3) Fees that should be imposed upon licensees;
- 18 (4) Whether there should be differentiated fees for
- 19 residents and nonresidents;
- 20 (5) How moneys collected under the noncommercial fishing
- 21 license program should be used, including amounts of
- 22 moneys used for administering the program, management



- 1 of aquatic resources, enforcement, and community
2 outreach and education;
- 3 (6) Native Hawaiian traditional and customary gathering;
- 4 (7) Whether there should be limits on fish that may be
5 taken;
- 6 (8) Establishment of reporting requirements for fish
7 taken, including data relating to species taken,
8 amount of fish taken, and areas of the State from
9 which fish are taken;
- 10 (9) The establishment of an online reporting system, and
11 the cost to the department thereof;
- 12 (10) The cost of implementing a noncommercial fishing
13 license program;
- 14 (11) Whether fishing should be restricted in certain areas;
- 15 (12) Penalties that should be imposed for violation of
16 rules adopted under the noncommercial fishing license
17 program; and
- 18 (13) Any other matters deemed necessary to examine the
19 feasibility.
- 20 (b) The department of land and natural resources may
21 consult with the various counties, the University of Hawaii, the



1 Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and any other agency or private
2 entity that it deems appropriate to conduct the study.

3 SECTION 3. The department of land and natural resources
4 shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
5 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later
6 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
7 of 2015.

8 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$25,000 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for the
11 department of land and natural resources to conduct a study
12 examining the feasibility of establishing a noncommercial
13 fishing license program, including the retention of necessary
14 and appropriate consultants and professionals.

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

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.



Report Title:

DLNR; Fishing; Fishing License; Study; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to conduct a study examining the feasibility of establishing a noncommercial fishing license program. Appropriates funds.
(SD1)

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