

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OCEAN RESOURCES.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Pohoiki Bay on the  
2 island of Hawaii is an attraction for commercial boat tours to  
3 view lava flows, a source of livelihood for fishers, and an  
4 important cultural and recreational site for many local  
5 residents. There are user conflicts among the commercial boat  
6 tours, fishers, and the non-commercial users of Pohoiki Bay.

7           The purpose of this Act is to direct the department of land  
8 and natural resources to study the Pohoiki Bay area to resolve  
9 the conflicts among Native Hawaiians exercising gathering and  
10 subsistence rights, recreational users, and commercial boat  
11 tours and fishers using Pohoiki Bay.

12           SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources  
13 shall conduct a study of Pohoiki Bay on the island of Hawaii for  
14 the purpose of resolving the conflicts among commercial boat  
15 tours and fishers, individuals exercising gathering and  
16 subsistence rights, and recreational users at Pohoiki Bay. The  
17 study shall evaluate:



- 1 (1) Current rules and regulations applicable to commercial
- 2 tour boats and fishing at Pohoiki Bay;
- 3 (2) The magnitude of use of Pohoiki Bay;
- 4 (3) Ocean-based recreation and coastal area programs; and
- 5 (4) Any other matters relevant to resolving the conflict
- 6 among Native Hawaiians exercising traditional
- 7 gathering and subsistence rights, recreational users,
- 8 and commercial tour boats and fishers that use Pohoiki
- 9 Bay.

10 SECTION 3. The department of land and natural resources  
11 shall submit a report of its study, including findings,  
12 recommendations, and any proposed legislation, to the  
13 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
14 the regular session of 2015.

15 SECTION 4. The department of land and natural resources  
16 shall expend so much of the royalties it receives from  
17 geothermal resource mining leases as is necessary to establish  
18 and maintain one conservation enforcement officer position in  
19 the division of conservation and resource enforcement for the  
20 area of Pohoiki Bay on the island of Hawaii.

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



**Report Title:**

Fishing; Commercial Tour Boats; Study; Pohoiki Bay

**Description:**

Directs the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to conduct a study of Pohoiki Bay in order to resolve conflicts among the users of the Bay. Requires DLNR to establish a DOCARE position for the Pohoiki Bay area to be funded through geothermal royalties. (HB2552 HD1)

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

