

JAN 18 2013

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE LAND MAMMAL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus*
2 semotus) is Hawaii's only endemic land mammal. This bat, also
3 called the Ōpe'ape'a, is a subspecies of the North American
4 hoary bat. Notably, the Hawaiian hoary bat is the only land
5 mammal whose subspecies is found only in Hawaii.

6 An adult Hawaiian hoary has an approximate twelve to
7 fifteen inch wingspan, weighs approximately as much as a mouse,
8 and flies at a speed of up to sixty miles per hour while
9 pursuing mosquitoes, insects, and other night-flying aerial
10 prey. A single Hawaiian hoary bat can consume forty percent of
11 its body weight in a single night.

12 On October 13, 1970, the Hawaiian hoary bat was added to
13 the United States Fish & Wildlife List of Endangered Species.
14 Population estimates for the bat have ranged from hundreds to a
15 few thousand. The magnitude of any current population decline
16 is unknown; however, observation and specimen records suggest
17 that the Hawaiian hoary bat is now absent from historically
18 occupied ranges.

SB SMO 13-045



S.B. NO. 775

1 The purpose of this Act is to raise awareness of the
 2 Hawaiian hoary bat as an endangered species and engender
 3 awareness of this uniquely Hawaiian land mammal. This Act is
 4 designed to recognize the importance of the Hawaiian hoary bat
 5 to the State of Hawaii by establishing and designating the
 6 Hawaiian hoary bat as the official state land mammal.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
 8 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
 9 read as follows:

10 "§5- State land mammal. The Hawaiian hoary bat
 11 (Lasiurus cinereus semotus) is established and designated as the
 12 official land mammal of the State."

13 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 775

Report Title:

Hawaiian Hoary Bat; State Land Mammal

Description:

Designates the Hawaiian hoary bat as the state land mammal.

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