
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MARINE DEBRIS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that marine debris, such
2 as derelict fishing gear including nets, lines, and ropes, is
3 often discarded into the ocean either with intent or negligence.
4 This debris is a pollutant to the environment and efforts to
5 dispose of it properly should be a priority.

6 The legislature further finds that the crews aboard vessels
7 should be encouraged to remove debris from the ocean, and could
8 accomplish this through a partnership between the State and
9 owners, lessees, crews, or other occupants of vessels, whereby
10 crews aboard those vessels gather marine debris, transfer it to
11 a marine debris collection center, and get paid for the eligible
12 marine debris delivered to an approved facility.

13 The purpose of this Act is to:

14 (1) Require the department of land and natural resources
15 division of boating and ocean recreation to create a
16 pilot program to further rid the ocean of marine



1 debris and appropriate funds for the pilot program;
2 and
3 (2) Appropriate funds for the University of Hawaii water
4 resources research center to research and develop
5 specialized equipment for the effective and efficient
6 removal of plastic marine debris from beaches and
7 shorelines.

8 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources
9 division of boating and ocean recreation shall implement a pilot
10 program to encourage the collection of man-made marine debris
11 found abandoned in the ocean, including fishing nets, ropes,
12 lines, and other similar materials that are not naturally
13 occurring in the ocean. The department shall pay 50 cents per
14 pound of eligible marine debris delivered to a marine debris
15 collection center approved by the department. The program shall
16 commence on January 1, 2021, and end no later than December 31,
17 2023.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for
21 implementing a pilot program pursuant to section 2 of this Act.



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. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
6 University of Hawaii water resources research center to research
7 and develop specialized equipment for the effective and
8 efficient removal of plastic marine debris from beaches and
9 shorelines. The University of Hawaii water resources research
10 center may contract with other entities as needed.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
12 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



Report Title:

Marine Debris Collection; DLNR; Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation; Pilot Project; UH Water Resources Research Center; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Land and Natural Resources to create and implement a marine debris collection pilot program. Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii for research and development of specialized equipment for the effective and efficient removal of plastic marine debris from beaches and shorelines. Effective 7/1/2030. (HD1)

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