

JAN 23 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TOURISM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that tourism is the
2 largest private sector industry in the State and that Hawaii is
3 known globally for stunning natural beauty, unique culture, and
4 the spirit of aloha. A successful tourism industry in Hawaii
5 depends on the health of natural and cultural resources,
6 communities, economy, and relationships with visitors.

7 The legislature further finds that an increase in the
8 State's local population and visitors has resulted in both
9 overuse of and degradation in the quality of the State's
10 precious natural resources. Pollution, erosion, and safety have
11 become increasingly problematic in our State's favorite parks,
12 trails, and waterways. The legislature finds that a potential
13 solution to these problems is proper resource management through
14 increased education and self-sustaining funding.

15 The legislature further finds that the tourism industry has
16 a role to play in protecting the State's natural resources,
17 perpetuating Hawaii's history, and preserving a high quality of



1 life for Hawaii's residents by supporting sustainable practices
2 that are designed to maintain and manage Hawaii's resources.

3 The legislature additionally finds that requiring
4 sustainable practices, including development and implementation
5 of a trail fee pilot program and requiring professional tour
6 guide certification from persons in the tourism industry, may
7 advance this goal while also enhancing visitor experiences and
8 protecting Hawaii's brand.

9 The purpose of this Act is to convene a resource management
10 task force to develop plans and a schedule to implement a trail
11 fee pilot program and a commercial tour guide certification
12 program.

13 SECTION 2. (a) The resource management task force is
14 established within the department of land and natural resources
15 for administrative purposes.

16 (b) The task force shall:

17 (1) No later than _____, develop and implement a
18 trail fee pilot program; provided that no fee imposed
19 pursuant to the trail fee pilot program shall be
20 assessed against a resident of the State; provided
21 further that any proceeds generated pursuant to the



1 trail fee pilot program shall be expended for purposes
2 of trail maintenance and preservation;

3 (2) Examine whether it is appropriate to require persons
4 who use various state resources for commercial
5 purposes or apply for various commercial use permits
6 to hold and maintain certification or meet certain
7 minimum requirements to ensure that these persons
8 understand the principles of sustainable tourism and
9 implement those principles in their commercial
10 endeavors; provided that the types of state resources
11 and commercial use permits that may be considered
12 include but are not limited to the na ala hele trail
13 system, state parks, small boat harbors, ocean
14 recreation management areas, instructor/operator
15 permits, and common carrier certificates and contract
16 carrier permits covering the transportation of
17 passengers;

18 (3) Recommend existing certificates or certification
19 programs that may be appropriate, if the task force
20 determines that it is appropriate to require the
21 persons described in paragraph (1) to hold and



- 1 maintain certification or meet certain minimum
2 requirements; and
- 3 (4) Make recommendations and plans regarding any necessary
4 certifications and certification renewals.
- 5 (c) The task force shall consist of the following members,
6 or their designated representatives:
- 7 (1) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
8 resources, who shall serve as co-chair;
- 9 (2) The state sustainability coordinator, who shall serve
10 as co-chair;
- 11 (3) The chairperson of the board of directors of the
12 Hawaii tourism authority;
- 13 (4) The director of business, economic development, and
14 tourism;
- 15 (5) The administrator of the division of state parks of
16 the department of land and natural resources;
- 17 (6) The program manager of the na ala hele trail and
18 access program;
- 19 (7) The administrator of the division of boating and ocean
20 recreation of the department of land and natural
21 resources;



1 (8) The committee chairperson of the aha moku advisory
2 committee

3 (9) The chancellor of the university of Hawaii at Hilo;

4 (10) The chancellor of Hawaii community college;

5 (11) The chancellor of Kapiolani community college;

6 (12) The chancellor of Kauai community college; and

7 (13) The chancellor of the university of Hawaii Maui
8 college;

9 provided that the Hawaii Ecotourism Association, Hawaii
10 Transportation Association, and Activities and Attractions
11 Association of Hawaii, Inc., shall be requested to designate
12 representatives of those organizations to serve as members on
13 the task force.

14 Task force members may recommend additional members having
15 appropriate specialized expertise to join the task force,
16 subject to approval by the co-chairs.

17 (e) The task force shall submit to the legislature a
18 preliminary report, including an update on the task force's
19 progress and any anticipated needs for completion, no later than
20 November 30, 2020.



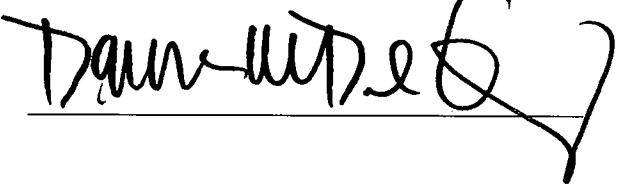
S.B. NO. 3089

1 (f) The task force shall submit to the legislature a final
 2 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
 3 proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the
 4 convening of the regular session of 2021.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
 8 resource management task force to examine the necessity of
 9 professional certification and, if applicable, make
 10 corresponding plans pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

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

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

14 INTRODUCED BY: 

S.B. NO. 3089

Report Title:

Department of Land and Natural Resources; Tourism; Resource Management Task Force; Trail Fee Pilot Program; Commercial Tour Guide Certification Program; Appropriation

Description:

Convenes a resource management task force to develop plans and a schedule to implement a trail fee pilot program and a commercial tour guide certification program. Appropriates funds.

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

