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# 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 the tourism industry has  
8 a prominent role to play in protecting the State's natural  
9 resources, perpetuating Hawaii's history, and preserving a high  
10 quality of life for Hawaii's residents, by switching the focus  
11 of the State's tourism industry from marketing Hawaii to helping  
12 to manage Hawaii's resources. The legislature additionally  
13 finds that requiring sustainable practices and professional tour  
14 guide certification from persons in the tourism industry may  
15 advance this goal, in addition to enhancing visitor experiences  
16 and protecting Hawaii's brand.



1           The purpose of this Act is to convene a professional tour  
2 guide certification task force to develop plans and a schedule  
3 to implement professional tour guide certification programs.

4           SECTION 2. (a) The professional tour guide certification  
5 task force is established within the office of the lieutenant  
6 governor for administrative purposes.

7           (b) The task force shall:

8           (1) Examine whether it is appropriate to require persons  
9 who use various state resources for commercial  
10 purposes or apply for various commercial use permits  
11 to hold and maintain certification or meet minimum  
12 requirements to ensure that these persons understand  
13 principles of sustainable tourism and implement those  
14 principles into their commercial endeavors. The types  
15 of state resources and commercial use permits that may  
16 be considered include but are not limited to the Na  
17 Ala Hele trail system, state parks, small boat  
18 harbors, ocean recreation management areas,  
19 instructor/operator permits, and common carrier  
20 certificates and contract carrier permits covering the  
21 transportation of passengers;



1           (2) If the task force determines that it is appropriate to  
2           require persons who use various state resources for  
3           commercial purposes or apply for various commercial  
4           use permits, recommend existing certificates or  
5           certification programs that may be appropriate for  
6           this purpose; and

7           (3) Make recommendations and plans regarding any necessary  
8           certification and renewal.

9           (c) The task force shall consist of the following members,  
10          or their designated representatives:

11          (1) The lieutenant governor's chief of staff, who shall  
12          serve as chairperson;

13          (2) The comptroller;

14          (3) The director of finance;

15          (4) The president of the University of Hawaii system;

16          (5) The chief executive officer of the Hawaii health  
17          systems corporation;

18          (6) The superintendent of education;

19          (7) The chairperson of the board of land and natural  
20          resources;

21          (8) The director of transportation;



1 (9) A member of the house of representatives, appointed by  
2 the speaker of the house of representatives;

3 (10) A member of the senate, appointed by the president of  
4 the senate;

5 (11) A private sector representative, appointed by the  
6 speaker of the house of representatives; and

7 (12) A private sector representative, appointed by the  
8 president of the senate.

9 Task force members may recommend additional members with  
10 appropriate specialized expertise to join the task force,  
11 subject to approval by the chairperson.

12 (d) The task force shall submit a preliminary report,  
13 including an update on the task force's progress and any  
14 anticipated needs for completion, to the legislature no later  
15 than October 31, 2020.

16 (e) The task force shall submit a final report of its  
17 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
18 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
19 to the convening of the regular session of 2021.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and  
2 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
3 year 2020-2021 for the professional tour guide certification  
4 task force to examine and plan, as necessary, professional tour  
5 guide certification programs and the necessity of certification,  
6 pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
8 the lieutenant governor for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.



**Report Title:**

Tourism; Tour Guides; Department of Land and Natural Resources;  
Commercial Use Permits; State Parks; Na Ala Hele Trails;  
Commercial Instructor and Operator Permits; Sustainable Tourism;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a professional tour guide certification task force to determine whether it is appropriate to require persons who use various state resources for commercial purposes or apply for various commercial use permits to hold and maintain certification or meet minimum requirements, recommend existing certificates or certification programs that may be appropriate for this purpose, and make recommendations and plans regarding any necessary certification and renewal. (SD1)

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