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GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

**Testimony of**  
**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
**Chairperson**

**Before the House Committee on**  
**WATER, LAND, AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS**

**Wednesday, February 5, 2020**  
**9:00 AM**  
**State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of**  
**HOUSE BILL 2132**  
**RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

House Bill 2132 proposes to establish the water sports equipment decal program (Program); to allow water sports equipment owners to register their equipment and receive identification decals; and to appropriate funds for establishing the Program. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) appreciates the intent of this measure and offers the following comments.**

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) currently operates a very similar program, which has been in operation for several years and is also voluntary. USCG prints self-adhesive identification stickers and distributes these stickers at no charge with the intent of reducing the time and frequency of search and rescue missions that must be conducted when lost equipment is found. The Department believes it would be inefficient to implement a state program nearly identical to an already-established USCG program.

Additionally, the proof of ownership language in this measure may limit the number of people applying for registration and decals. Unless equipment is newly acquired from a commercial distributor, an owner would likely not be able to produce proof of ownership, leading to an owner's decision not to register their equipment.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

**SUZANNE D. CASE**  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**ROBERT K. MASUDA**  
FIRST DEPUTY

**M. KALEO MANUEL**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES  
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE  
MANAGEMENT  
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS  
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LAND  
STATE PARKS