

JAN 19 2024

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEABED MINING.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 190D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4           "§190D- Seabed mining; permits; prohibited. (a)

5 Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the mining, extraction,  
6 and removal of minerals from the seabed shall be prohibited in  
7 state marine waters.

8           (b) No permit shall be issued for or in connection with  
9 the development or operation of any facility or infrastructure  
10 associated with the mining, extraction, or removal of minerals  
11 from the seabed within state marine waters.

12           (c) Notwithstanding subsections (a) and (b), collection of  
13 sand from state marine waters to replenish beaches in the State  
14 is permitted; provided that prior approval from the board of  
15 land and natural resources is obtained.

16           (d) This section shall not be construed to prohibit  
17 scientific research or collections conducted by, or on behalf



1 of, an educational, scientific, or research institution or a  
2 governmental agency.

3 (e) As used in this section, "minerals" means natural  
4 deposits of valuable minerals, including metals and placer  
5 deposits of metals, nonmetallic minerals, gemstones, ores, gold,  
6 silver, copper, lead, iron, manganese, silica, chrome, platinum,  
7 tungsten, zirconium, titanium, garnet, phosphorous, polymetallic  
8 nodules, and cobalt-rich ferromanganese crusts.

9 (f) Nothing contained in this section shall diminish,  
10 alter, or amend any existing rights, privileges or practices of  
11 the Native Hawaiian people; nor shall the obligations of the  
12 State to the Native Hawaiian people be absolved."

13 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY: Lynne D. Costa



# S.B. NO. 2773

**Report Title:**

Environmental Protection; Seabed Mining; Permits; Prohibition

**Description:**

Prohibits the mining, extraction, and removal of minerals from the seabed in all state marine waters. Prohibits the issuance of any permit for or in connection with the development or operation of any facility or infrastructure associated with the mining, extraction, or removal of minerals from the seabed within state marine waters.

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

