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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that *Anemonia majano*, or  
2       the majano anemone, is an invasive species that was detected in  
3       Kaneohe Bay during the follow-up monitoring of a previous  
4       non-native coral removal site. Majano anemone, originally  
5       introduced as a hitchhiker on the released non-native corals,  
6       has spread to blanket an area of about nine hundred fifty square  
7       yards. This invasive anemone severely threatens Kaneohe Bay's  
8       delicate coral reef ecosystem, particularly the endemic finger  
9       coral *Porites compressa*. Known for its rapid growth and spread  
10      throughout various substrates, aggressive competition for space,  
11      and ability to smother native coral species, the majano anemone  
12      has previously outcompeted stony corals in the Philippines and  
13      Vietnam, resulting in phase shifts to corallimorpharia-dominated  
14      communities. Left unchecked, the majano anemone could  
15      significantly degrade reef health and fish habitat, harm marine  
16      biodiversity, and disrupt vital ecosystem services relied upon  
17      by the coastal communities in Hawaii.



1       The legislature further finds that the department of land  
2 and natural resources' division of aquatic resources has  
3 proposed a multi-phase removal strategy tailored to the biology  
4 of the majano anemone that involves chemical control and  
5 physical removal and smothering practices. Supporting these  
6 efforts may prevent further damage and spread of the majano  
7 anemone, ensuring that the State's coral reefs and marine  
8 ecosystems remain health and vibrant.

9       The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to support  
10 the efforts of the division of aquatic resources in the removal  
11 of the majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay.

12       SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$               or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
15 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
16 year 2026-2027 to support the division of aquatic resources in  
17 removing majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay, including personnel,  
18 materials and equipment, data management and analysis, and  
19 outreach and community engagement.

20       The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
21 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.



**1** SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Kaneohe Bay; Majano Anemone; Invasive Species; DLNR; Division of Aquatic Resources; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to support the efforts of the Division of Aquatic Resources of the Department of Land and Natural Resources in the removal of the majano anemone from Kaneohe Bay. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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

