

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



GOV. MSG. NO. 1204

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

May 27, 2025

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate,  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Nadine Nakamura  
Speaker, and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Aloha President Kouchi, Speaker Nakamura, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 27, 2025, the following bill was signed into law:

H.B. NO. 1220, H.D. 1,  
S.D. 1, C.D. 1

RELATING TO INVASIVE SPECIES.  
**ACT 104**

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Josh Green M.D." in a cursive style.

Josh Green, M.D.  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

Approved by the Governor

on MAY 27 2025

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025  
STATE OF HAWAII

**ACT 104**  
**H.B. NO.** 1220  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1  
C.D. 1

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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 \$200,000 or so much  
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the  
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
16 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, 2025.



H.B. NO. 1220  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1  
C.D. 1

APPROVED this 27th day of May, 2025



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

HB No. 1220, HD 1, SD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 30, 2025  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025.



Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker  
House of Representatives

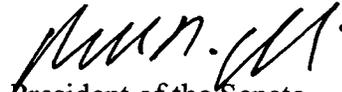


Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I**

Date: April 30, 2025  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Third Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2025.



President of the Senate



Clerk of the Senate