
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO KAENA POINT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Kaena point state
2 park and Kaena point natural area reserve are a spectacular
3 protected coastal area with rich cultural, natural, historic,
4 and recreational resources, including rare and endangered
5 species. Every year, a significant number of visitors and
6 residents use and enjoy the areas for hiking, fishing, camping,
7 family outings, beach-going, recreation, scientific study, and
8 educational excursions.

9 The legislature further finds that due to the very remote
10 location of Kaena point state park and Kaena point natural area
11 reserve, the department of land and natural resources is unable
12 to provide adequate staffing to ensure the safety of users and
13 to ensure that users of the park and reserve respect and protect
14 the precious natural resources of the area. Although most users
15 are appreciative and respectful, the recreational resources of
16 these areas are highly vulnerable to abuse, uninformed visitors,
17 and significant impacts from overuse. The legislature also



1 finds that the visible presence of enforcement officers and on-
2 site educational staff, such as an ambassador or steward, to
3 patrol and educate visitors would protect the safety of the
4 users and the integrity of the resources.

5 The purpose of this Act is to permanently increase and
6 strengthen the presence of enforcement officers and on-site
7 educational staff as well as remote monitoring for Kaena point
8 state park and Kaena point natural area reserve.

9 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources is
10 authorized to establish a system of graduated user fees for
11 persons visiting Kaena point state park and Kaena point natural
12 area reserve. Visitor fees shall be used for the long-term
13 costs of additional enforcement officers and on-site education
14 staff. Fees shall not be imposed on persons who are exercising
15 their constitutionally protected traditional and customary
16 gathering and access rights.

17 The department of land and natural resources is authorized
18 to establish a system that requires all persons using Kaena
19 point state park and Kaena point natural area reserve to log in
20 with proper identification and receive educational information



1 about the protected resources of the area before entering the
2 park or reserve.

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$_____ or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for
6 additional enforcement officers and on-site educational staff
7 for Kaena point state park and Kaena point natural area reserve
8 to provide full-time, around the clock coverage by an officer or
9 educational ambassador, and to support a system of remote
10 monitoring to document usage in areas that prevent human
11 coverage; provided that the sum appropriated shall be in
12 addition to the base budget of the department of land and
13 natural resources.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.
17

INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 502

Report Title:

Kaena Point State Park; Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources for additional enforcement officers and on-site educational staff for Kaena point state park and Kaena point natural area reserve to provide full-time coverage and monitoring.

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