A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE PARKS.

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

SECTION 1. (a) The state parks division of the department 
of land and natural resources shall conduct a feasibility study 
on the employment of residential caretakers at high-use hiking 
trails to assist hikers and reduce the need for rescues of 
hikers.

(b) The feasibility study shall:

(1) Include an analysis of potential benefits to the State 
from employing residential caretakers at high-use 
trail locations, including whether incidents that lead 
to the need for rescues of hikers would likely be 
prevented by residential caretakers;

(2) Provide cost projections for housing, compensation, 
and benefits for residential caretakers;

(3) Determine areas where placement of residential 
caretakers would be the most effective in reducing the 
need for hiker rescues; and
(4) Take into consideration the National Park Service's model for a resident workforce.

(c) The state parks division of the department of land and natural resources shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2020.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the state parks division of the department of land and natural resources to conduct the feasibility study of a state parks residential caretakers program.

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

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

INTRODUCED BY:
Report Title:
Department of Land and Natural Resources; State Parks Division; Study; Residential Caretakers; Hikers

Description:
Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources State Parks Division to conduct a feasibility study of employing residential caretakers at high-use trails to assist hikers and reduce the need for hiker rescues.

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