RELATING TO MARINE LIFE CONSERVATION DISTRICTS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature has recognized Molokini Shoal as an area worthy of special designation and treatment due to its environmental and scenic importance. Molokini Shoal has been designated as the Maui Molokini Shoal marine life conservation district in order to conserve and replenish marine reserves. Because the department of land and natural resources limits activities within marine life conversation districts, these areas provide protection for aquatic life and are typically the most common sites for snorkeling, diving, and underwater photography.

The purpose of this Act is to provide greater protection to the Maui Molokini Shoal marine life conservation district by capping the number of permits that may be issued and the number of permitted vessels that can enter the crater at any single time.

SECTION 2. Section 190-4.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:
§190-4.5 Anchoring, boating, and mooring in marine life conservation districts; rules. (a) The department shall, pursuant to chapter 91, adopt rules for the regulation of anchoring and mooring in each marine life conservation district established under this chapter.

(b) Specifically for the Maui Molokini Shoal marine life conservation district, there shall be a total of forty-one permits issued, and no more than twenty permitted vessels shall be granted entry into the crater at any one time.

(c) Within its jurisdiction over ocean recreational boating and coastal activities, the department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 for the regulation of boating in each marine life conservation district established under this chapter.

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
Report Title:
Marine Life Conservation Districts; Maui; Molokini Shoal;
Permits; Vessels

Description:
Provides that no more than forty-one permits may be issued for
the Maui Molokini Shoal marine life conservation district and
that no more than twenty permitted vessels may be granted entry
to the crater at any one time.

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