DRAFT RESOLUTION 18-1

SUPPORTING EVALUATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR VESSEL BIOFOULING MANAGEMENT AND COLLABORATION BY HISC AGENCIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF BIOFOULING MANAGEMENT REGULATIONS FOR HAWAII HARBORS

WHEREAS studies have shown biofouling on vessels to be an important means of transferring aquatic invasive species which, if established in new ecosystems, may pose threats to the environment, human health, property and resources; and

WHEREAS the Hawaii Interagency Biosecurity Plan 2017-2027 (Biosecurity Plan) recognizes that vessel biofouling has contributed between 35% and 78% of Hawaii’s introduced and cryptogenic species and is ranked highest among all vectors of initial introduction in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS the Biosecurity Plan calls on the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to develop best ballast water and hull husbandry practices and proactive ballast water and hull cleaning standards for all nonmilitary vessels to minimize movement of AIS into Hawaii’s ports, harbors, and marinas; and

WHEREAS Hawaii Revised Statutes section 187A-32 designates the DLNR as the lead state agency for preventing the introduction of alien aquatic organisms through the regulation of hull fouling organisms; and

WHEREAS the DOH is tasked with administering water pollution control regulations and enforcing water quality standards under Chapter 342D, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS Hawaii Revised Statutes section 266-1 requires that all vessels and shipping within the commercial harbors and roadsteads of Hawaii shall be under the care and control of the DOT; and

RECOGNIZING that a high level of coordination between various state agencies will be required to develop and implement safe and effective measures for biofouling management in Hawaii’s harbors; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that, due to the highly transitory nature of the shipping industry, interstate and international coordination in development, testing, and approval of best management practices, technologies, and regulations for biofouling management is essential; and

FURTHER RECOGNIZING that the Alliance for Coastal Technologies and the Maritime Environmental Resource Center have developed a program and protocol for testing full-capture
biofouling removal technologies and have formally requested that Hawaii represent isolated tropical island climates for its program; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 194, Hawaii Revised Statutes, authorizes the Hawaii Invasive Species Council to advise and coordinate invasive species-related efforts with and between state, federal, international, and private programs, and to coordinate the State’s position with regard to invasive species; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council recognizes that biofouling management in Hawaii’s harbors is an important regulatory tool in preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species in Hawaii’s harbors and nearshore waters; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the Hawaii Invasive Species Council direct relevant staff within their individual agencies to participate in an interagency team to review current findings and risk for the in-water cleaning of the slime layer on certain vessels, and create a process and conditions to allow low risk vessels to apply for an in-water cleaning permit; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council supports Hawaii’s involvement in the Alliance for Coastal Technologies and the Maritime Environmental Resource Center’s program for evaluating biofouling management technologies, including the addition of Hawaii as a study site for evaluation of these technologies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Invasive Species Council supports implementing evaluated best management practices and technologies that are scientifically demonstrated as safe and effective for managing biofouling on vessel hulls in Hawaii harbors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of Hawaii, the President of the State Senate, the Speaker of the State House of Representatives, and to the directors or chairpersons of each HISC agency.

Adopted by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council on the following date:

Suzanne D. Case, Department of Land & Natural Resources

Scott Enright, Department of Agriculture

Keith Kawaoka, D. Env., Department of Health

David Rodriguez, Department of Transportation

Leo Asuncion, Office of Planning, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

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