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**A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE**

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ESTABLISHING A PROGRAM FOR EXTENDED LIFEGUARD SERVICES WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES.

BE IT ORDAINED by the People of the City and County of Honolulu:

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a program in the department of emergency services to serve public safety and welfare by extending lifeguard services at public beaches to cover daytime hours.

Recent developments and trends in the visitor and social media industries will only add visitors to Oahu's beaches, and increase the demand for City lifeguard services to ensure public safety. With Hawaii facing global challenges as a visitor and vacation destination, the visitor industry has had to increase advertising and promotional packaging to keep Hawaii relevant as a premier visitor and vacation destination. In addition to the visitor industry's efforts the growing popularity of social media postings of beach activities, including hazardous activities, will further augment the number of visitors to Oahu's beaches and require commensurate lifeguard services to ensure public safety.

SECTION 2. Chapter 2, Revised Ordinances of Honolulu 1990 ("The Mayor and Executive Agencies – Additional Powers, Duties and Functions"), is amended by adding a new article to be appropriately designated by the Revisor of Ordinances and to read as follows:

**"Article \_\_. Department of Emergency Services**

**Sec. 2-\_\_1 Extended lifeguard services program.**

- (a) Legislative Findings and Declaration of Intent. Public safety and welfare would be served by providing public safety programs that protect and educate beachgoers about ocean safety. With increasing use of Oahu's beaches and ocean waters from early mornings to late afternoons by both residents who want to swim before and after work, and by visitors who are enticed by the visitor industry and social media postings to maximize their beach activities during their stays, the City needs to provide lifeguard services that encompasses the times when beaches and ocean waters are being utilized by residents and visitors.



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- (b) Director of Emergency Services to Develop Extended Lifeguard Services Program. The director of emergency services shall undertake and develop an extended lifeguard services program that provides for lifeguard personnel during all daytime hours, as provided in Section 2-\_\_\_.2.

**Sec. 2-\_\_\_.2 Additional powers, duties, and functions of the director of emergency services.**

- (a) The director of emergency services shall establish a program that provides for extended lifeguard services that shall encompass all daytime hours, from dawn to dusk.
- (b) The extended lifeguard services shall apply to emergencies arising on the beach and in the near shore waters of the city.
- (c) The director of emergency services shall formalize a long-term plan to implement this program for extended lifeguard services within nine months of the effective date of this ordinance, and provide this plan to the Council by January 1, 2021.
- (d) The director of emergency services shall begin implementation of this program for extended lifeguard services no later than July 1, 2021."



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SECTION 3. This ordinance takes effect upon approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

Kymerly Pine

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DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

July 8, 2019

Honolulu, Hawaii

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Councilmembers

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Corporation Counsel

APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
KIRK CALDWELL, Mayor  
City and County of Honolulu