A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PROTECTION OF FOREST RESERVES.

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

1	SECTION 1. Chapter 183, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is		
2	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated		
3	and to read as follows:		
4	"§183- General administrative penalties. (a) Except as		
5	otherwise	provided by law, the board or its authorized	
6	representative may:		
7	(1)	Set, charge, and collect administrative fines;	
8	(2)	Bring legal action to recover administrative fines,	
9		fees, and costs, including attorney's fees and costs	
10		and costs associated with land or habitat restoration;	
11		and	
12	(3)	Collect administrative fees and costs pursuant to	
13		paragraph (2),	
14	resulting	from a violation of this chapter, any rule adopted, or	
15	permit is	sued thereunder.	
16	(b)	The administrative fines shall be as follows:	

1	(1)	For a first violation, or any violation not preceded
2		within a five-year period by a violation of chapter
3		183, a fine of not more than \$2,500 per violation;
4	(2)	For a second violation within five years of a previous
5		violation, a fine of not more than \$5,000 per
6		violation; and
7	(3)	For a third or subsequent violation within five years
8		of the last two violations, a fine of not more than
9		\$10,000 per violation.
10	(c)	In addition, a fine of up to \$2,000 per violation may
11	be levied	for each destroyed or harvested tree or plant, or
12	portion t	hereof, other than koa, larger than six inches in
13	diameter	at ground level;
14	(d)	In addition, a fine of up to \$10,000 per violation may
15	be levied	for each destroyed or harvested koa tree, or portion
16	thereof,	larger than six inches in diameter at ground level;
17	(e)	Any criminal prosecution for any violation of this
18	chapter o	r any rule adopted thereunder shall not be deemed to
19	preclude	the State from recovering additional administrative
20	fines, fe	es, and costs, including attorney's fees and costs.

- 1 (f) Fines under this section shall not be imposed on
- 2 persons exercising native Hawaiian gathering rights or
- 3 traditional cultural practices.
- 4 (g) The department shall submit an annual report outlining
- 5 the revenues generated by the penalties to the legislature at
- 6 least twenty days before each regular session."
- 7 SECTION 2. Section 183-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 8 amended to read as follows:
- 9 "§183-18 [Penalty.] Criminal penalties. Any person who
- 10 violates section 183-17, upon conviction thereof, is quilty of a
- 11 misdemeanor and shall be fined not more than [\$1,000] \$2,000 or
- 12 imprisoned not more than one year, or both. In addition to any
- other penalty imposed under this section, a fine of up to \$2,000
- 14 shall be levied for each tree illegally taken under section
- **15** 183-17."
- 16 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
- 17 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
- 18 begun, before its effective date.
- 19 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 21 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Report Title:

Conservation; Forests

Description:

Establishes general administrative penalties for violations under chapter 183. Increases fines for timber trespass. (SD1)