
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LAND USE.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) Throughout the State there remain certain
2 lands that retain special cultural value. These lands are:

3 (1) Usually in rural areas and contain culturally valuable
4 sites and resources, both tangible and intangible;

5 (2) Sustain and support native Hawaiian lifestyles and
6 traditions that are retained and continue to be
7 practiced on an everyday basis;

8 (3) Include lands where native Hawaiian agricultural uses,
9 such as taro cultivation, are perpetuated; and

10 (4) Include native Hawaiian gathering areas and lands
11 where native Hawaiian activities, such as fishpond
12 cultivation and limu gathering, are practiced.

13 Some of these culturally special lands are found in Hana
14 and Keanae on the island of Maui, Halawa and Milolii on the
15 island of Hawaii, the east-end of the island of Molokai,
16 Waiahole, Waikane, and Kahana on the island of Oahu, and Hanalei
17 and Hanapepe on the island of Kauai.



1 (b) The purpose of this Act is to recognize and support
2 culturally special lands described in subsection (a) by
3 specifying the definition of, and process for establishing,
4 culturally valuable districts.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 205, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
7 to read as follows:

8 "PART . CULTURALLY VALUABLE DISTRICTS

9 §205-A Culturally valuable districts; definition and

10 objectives. (a) As used in this part, "culturally valuable
11 districts" means those lands identified pursuant to this part:

- 12 (1) That contain valuable cultural and historical sites
13 and resources, tangible and intangible;
- 14 (2) That include lands where native Hawaiian agricultural
15 uses, including taro cultivation, are continued;
- 16 (3) That include native Hawaiian gathering areas for
17 sustenance and cultural purposes; and
- 18 (4) Where native Hawaiian lifestyles and traditions are
19 retained and continue to be practiced on an everyday
20 basis.

21 (b) The objective for the identification and establishment
22 of culturally valuable districts is to identify and provide for



1 the protection, perpetuation, and restoration of these valuable
2 state resources.

3 **§205-B Establishment of culturally valuable districts.**

4 (a) A culturally valuable district shall be established by
5 concurrent resolution of the legislature.

6 (b) Any member of the legislature may and, upon the
7 request of any person, including a county, the president of the
8 senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall,
9 introduce concurrent resolutions to establish a culturally
10 valuable district.

11 (c) The concurrent resolution shall set forth the
12 boundaries of the culturally valuable district, following
13 natural monuments, ahupua'a, moku, or other traditional land
14 divisions, and may extend from the highest reaches of the
15 mountains to a designated distance beyond the shoreline. A
16 culturally valuable district may include one or more ahupua'a
17 and all or a part of any moku on any island. The concurrent
18 resolution shall also include a description of how the land
19 identified in the concurrent resolution meets the definition of
20 a culturally valuable district."

21 SECTION 3. In codifying the new sections added by section
22 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute



1 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
2 the new sections in this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



Report Title:

Land Use; Culturally Valuable Lands

Description:

Specifies the process for establishing culturally valuable districts (HB 706 HD1).

