
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AT-RISK PERSONS ON HAWAII ISLAND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds the department of land
2 and natural resources' youth conservation corps places
3 participants in natural resource conservation activities to help
4 them develop a sense of stewardship and build valuable work
5 experience through community service, training, and education.

6 However, these programs are mainly offered as summer activities
7 for students.

8 The purpose of this Act is to redefine the mission of the
9 youth conservation corps to help at-risk youth, to appropriate
10 moneys for a year-round program, and to create a pilot program
11 on the island of Hawaii.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 193, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
14 and to read as follows:

15 "§193- Youth conservation corps; funding. In addition
16 to funds provided under section 247-7, the director of land and
17 natural resources may seek grants from public and private



1 sources and may accept donations to finance the projects,
2 programs, and activities of the youth conservation corps."

3 SECTION 3. Section 193-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "[~~f~~]**\$193-32**[~~f~~] **Administration.** To carry out the program
6 authorized by this part, the governor may:

- 7 (1) Enter into an agreement or agreements, or designate
8 the department of land and natural resources, or any
9 other state department or departments as the state
10 agency or agencies to enter into an agreement or
11 agreements, with the proper authorities of the United
12 States;
- 13 (2) Designate the department of land and natural
14 resources, or any state department or departments to
15 design year-round programs to provide healthful
16 outdoor training and employment for at-risk youth
17 [~~young persons~~] and to advance the conservation,
18 development, and management of natural resources and
19 recreational areas, in accordance with the applicable
20 federal law; provided that the designated department
21 or departments may also adopt appropriate rules under
22 chapter 91 to carry out the programs so designed; and



1 (3) Defray one-half of all costs incurred with respect to
2 the programs or any other proportion of the costs of
3 the programs, which may be required by the applicable
4 laws of the United States, out of any moneys
5 appropriated to the department or departments
6 designated to participate in the programs, without
7 regard to the original purpose of the appropriations.

8 As used in this section, "at-risk youth" means youth with a
9 history of academic problems, negative peer groups, gang
10 affiliation, chronic truancy, anti-social behavior, substance
11 abuse, or other indicators of potential juvenile delinquency."

12 SECTION 4. Section 195-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) To preserve, manage, and protect the reserves system,
15 the department is authorized, in addition to any other powers,
16 to:

17 (1) Designate and bring under its control and management,
18 as part of the reserves system, any areas as follows:

19 (A) State owned land under the jurisdiction of the
20 department may be set aside as a natural area
21 reserve by resolution of the department, subject



1 to the approval of the governor by executive
2 order setting the land aside for that purpose;

3 (B) New natural area reserves may be established:

4 (i) By gift, devise, grant, reimbursement to
5 cooperators, exchange, or purchase of land
6 or any interest therein, including, but not
7 limited to, conservation easements;

8 (ii) By eminent domain pursuant to chapter 101;
9 or

10 (iii) By the setting aside of state owned land for
11 that purpose by the governor, as provided in
12 section 171-11;

13 (2) Cooperate or contract with any federal, state, or
14 county governmental agency, quasi-governmental agency,
15 private organization, or individual in carrying out
16 the purpose of this chapter;

17 (3) Acquire by gift, devise, grant, or donation any
18 personal property to be used in the acquisition or
19 management, or both, of natural area reserves;

20 (4) Implement, after consultation with the commission and
21 based on the most comprehensive up-to-date compilation



1 of scientific data, the acquisition, management,
2 protection, and use of natural area reserves; ~~and~~

3 (5) Administer the youth conservation corps, as
4 established in part IV of chapter 193 for at-risk
5 youth; and

6 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) Prepare and take the necessary steps to implement
7 the management plan set forth in section 195-11."

8 SECTION 5. Section 247-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "**§247-7 Disposition of taxes.** All taxes collected each
11 fiscal year under this chapter shall be paid into the state
12 treasury to the credit of the general fund of the State, to be
13 used and expended for the purposes for which the general fund
14 was created and exists by law; provided that of the taxes
15 collected each fiscal year:

16 (1) Ten per cent shall be paid into the land conservation
17 fund established pursuant to section 173A-5;

18 (2) Fifty per cent shall be paid into the rental housing
19 trust fund established by section 201G-432; and

20 (3) Twenty-five per cent shall be paid into the natural
21 area reserve fund established by section 195-9;

22 provided that the funds paid into the natural area



1 reserve fund shall be annually disbursed by the
2 department of land and natural resources in the
3 following priority:

4 (A) To natural area partnership and forest
5 stewardship programs after joint consultation
6 with the forest stewardship committee and the
7 natural area reserves system commission;

8 (B) Projects undertaken in accordance with watershed
9 management plans pursuant to section 171-58 or
10 watershed management plans negotiated with
11 private landowners, and management of the natural
12 area reserves system pursuant to section 195-3;
13 and

14 (C) The youth conservation corps for at-risk youth
15 established under chapter 193."

16 SECTION 6. The department of land and natural resources
17 shall:

18 (1) Establish a five-year pilot program on the island of
19 Hawaii for the youth conservation corps, incorporating
20 natural resource conservation activities to help corps
21 members develop life and job skills and gain work
22 experience. The program shall be designed to serve



1 at-risk youth as defined in section 193-32, Hawaii
2 Revised Statutes.

3 (2) Incorporate the following into the youth conservation
4 corps program:

5 (A) Training as necessary to prepare new corps
6 members for the youth conservation corps program;

7 (B) Physical fitness training;

8 (C) Work, as part of a crew of up to twelve corps
9 members, of twenty hours each week through which
10 corps members may learn:

11 (i) The importance of responsibility,
12 dependability, punctuality, and good
13 attendance;

14 (ii) Worksite relations skills, including taking
15 constructive criticism and working
16 cooperatively with other corps members and
17 staff; and

18 (iii) Western and traditional Hawaiian job skills;

19 (D) Life skills training including instruction in
20 conflict resolution, job search skills, personal
21 money management, goal setting, and decision
22 making;



1 (E) Education for twenty hours each week on subjects
2 such as genealogy, Hawaiian language and
3 traditional practices, reading, math,
4 communication skills, English language
5 proficiency, academic preparation, and work-
6 specific skills; and

7 (F) Case management to oversee corps member
8 participation in other personal assistance
9 programs, such as substance abuse programs, while
10 maintaining a continuity of academic-focused
11 activity; and

12 (3) Appoint an executive director and hire staff exempt
13 from chapters 76 and 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for
14 the youth conservation corps program.

15 The executive director of the youth conservation corps
16 program shall consult, cooperate with, and seek advice from
17 appropriate organizations and agencies.

18 SECTION 7. No later than twenty days prior to the
19 convening of each regular session of the legislature, the
20 department of land and natural resources shall submit to the
21 legislature an annual report of all its activities relating to
22 the youth conservation corps, including:



- 1 (1) An accounting of all moneys received and disbursed;
- 2 (2) Detailed descriptions of the types of activities and
- 3 services offered to corps members;
- 4 (3) Statistics indicating the number and types of
- 5 community members directly served by the youth
- 6 conservation corps program; and
- 7 (4) Success rates in helping corps members attain personal
- 8 achievements and growth.

9 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
12 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2008-2009, to expand the youth conservation corps to a year-
14 round program and establish and operate a youth conservation
15 corps pilot program on the island of Hawaii.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
17 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007,
21 provided that section 6 shall be repealed on June 30, 2012.



Report Title:

Youth Conservation Corps; Department of Land and Natural Resources

Description:

Redefines the mission of the youth conservation corps for at-risk youth and expands the program to a year-round basis. Requires the department of land and natural resources to establish, and appropriates moneys for, a year-round youth conservation corps pilot program for at-risk youth on the island of Hawaii.

