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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that an innovative  
2 approach in encouraging sustainable growth and economic  
3 development is to address the issue at the local level. Instead  
4 of taking a "top-down" approach where policies and directives  
5 are issued from a centralized agency, community-based planning  
6 represents an alternative approach that offers communities an  
7 opportunity to take the initiative in developing plans that  
8 address their unique, individual concerns.

9           The purpose of this Act is to promote sustainable growth  
10 and economic development in Hawaii by establishing the:

11           (1) Community-based sustainability grants special fund;

12           and

13           (2) Hawaii community-based sustainability advisory board.

14           SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
15 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read  
16 as follows:



1 "CHAPTER

2 COMMUNITY-BASED SUSTAINABILITY GRANTS

3 § -1 **Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

4 "Advisory board" means the Hawaii community-based  
5 sustainability advisory board.

6 "Applicant" means a private entity that applies for grant  
7 awards under this chapter.

8 "Office" means the office of planning.

9 § -2 **Community-based sustainability grants special  
10 fund; established.** (a) There is established within the state  
11 treasury a fund to be known as the community-based  
12 sustainability grants special fund and administered by the  
13 office.

14 (b) The community-based sustainability grants special fund  
15 shall be funded through legislative appropriations.

16 (c) Moneys in the community-based sustainability grants  
17 special fund shall be used to provide grants for planning and  
18 implementation of, and technical assistance for, sustainable  
19 development projects at the local community level. Grants shall  
20 be awarded as specified in section -3.



1       §     -3   **Application process for grants.**   (a)

2   Each applicant for grant moneys shall submit a grant application  
3   to the office that includes a sustainability plan.

4       (b)   The office of planning shall develop and implement  
5   standards and criteria to determine grant awardees, the amount  
6   of each grant awarded, and performance measurements. Priority  
7   shall be given to applicants who demonstrate the ability to meet  
8   one or more of the following objectives:

9       (1)   Development of a community-based planning process with  
10       broad citizen participation, allowing for the input  
11       and engagement of local residents;

12       (2)   Protection and preservation of the State's natural  
13       resources, including forests, surface and ground  
14       water, recreation and open space, and significant  
15       historic and archaeological sites;

16       (3)   Support for livable community designs that include  
17       integration of all income and age groups, mixed land  
18       uses and compact development, affordable housing,  
19       green spaces, access to public transit, bicycle and  
20       pedestrian ways, renewable energy systems, and  
21       enhanced aesthetics and beauty in public space; and



1 (4) Sustainable economic development strategies that will  
2 achieve a balanced distribution of opportunities and  
3 growth within the community.

4 (c) Each county may submit an application for grant  
5 awards. As part of its application, each county shall submit a  
6 comprehensive sustainable development plan that meets the  
7 standards and criteria specified under subsection (b).

8 § -4 Hawaii community-based sustainability advisory

9 board. (a) There is established an advisory board to be known  
10 as the Hawaii community-based sustainability advisory board, and  
11 administratively attached to the office.

12 (b) The advisory board shall consist of the following  
13 members:

14 (1) Two members appointed by the governor from a list of  
15 five individuals nominated by the speaker of the house  
16 of representatives;

17 (2) Two members appointed by the governor from a list of  
18 five individuals nominated by the president of the  
19 senate;

20 (3) Two members appointed by the governor from a list of  
21 five individuals nominated by the office of Hawaiian  
22 affairs;



1           (4) Two members appointed by the governor from a list of  
2           five individuals nominated by the Associated Students  
3           of the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and

4           (4) The director of the office, or the director's  
5           designee.

6 Each member shall possess at least three years of knowledge of,  
7 or experience in, issues relating to community planning or  
8 sustainable development.

9           (c) Each member shall serve for two years and may be  
10          reappointed at the end of their term pursuant to the appointment  
11          process under subsection (b). The director of the office, or  
12          the director's designee, shall be a permanent member of the  
13          advisory board.

14          (d) The director of the office, or the director's  
15          designee, shall convene the initial meeting of the advisory  
16          board. At the initial meeting, the advisory board shall select  
17          from among its members a person to serve as chairperson.

18 Members of the advisory board shall be compensated for travel  
19 expenses incurred in the conduct of their duties as advisory  
20 board members.

21          (e) The office, with assistance from the department of  
22          business, economic development, and tourism, shall provide



1 administrative assistance to the advisory board. Other state  
2 agencies shall provide assistance upon the request of the  
3 advisory board.

4 (f) The advisory board shall:

5 (1) Upon request by the office, provide assistance in  
6 reviewing applications for grant awards under this  
7 chapter;

8 (2) Provide technical assistance to applicants who request  
9 assistance in completing their applications for grant  
10 awards under this chapter; and

11 (3) Provide technical assistance to other entities  
12 involved in community-based sustainable development,  
13 to the extent practicable."

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 for fiscal  
16 year 2007-2008 to be deposited into the community-based  
17 sustainability grants special fund.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
19 budget and finance for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the community-  
21 based sustainability grants special fund the sum of \$500,000 for  
22 fiscal year 2007-2008 to be used for the purposes of the fund.



# H.B. NO. 1523

1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
2 planning for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:

*Lyla B. Berg*  


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JAN 23 2007



**Report Title:**

Community-based Sustainability

**Description:**

Establishes the Community-based Sustainability Grants Special Fund. Establishes the Hawaii Community-based Sustainability Advisory Board to provide technical assistance.

