
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GREENHOUSE GASES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that global warming poses
2 a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health,
3 natural resources, and the environment of Hawaii. The potential
4 adverse impacts of global warming include the exacerbation of
5 air quality problems, a rise in sea levels resulting in the
6 displacement of businesses and residences, damage to marine
7 ecosystems and the natural environment, and an increase in the
8 incidence of infectious diseases and other human health-related
9 problems.

10 Global warming will have detrimental effects on some of
11 Hawaii's largest industries, including tourism, agriculture,
12 recreational and commercial fishing, and forestry. It will also
13 increase the strain on electricity supplies necessary to meet
14 the demand for air conditioning during the hottest times of the
15 year.



1 The State has long been a national leader in environmental
2 stewardship, and it endeavors to lead the way in alternative
3 renewable energy development and use.

4 The purpose of this Act is to steer the State toward a
5 future free from greenhouse gas emissions by making reduced
6 greenhouse gases a priority goal in state planning.

7 SECTION 2. Section 226-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

9 "(b) To achieve the land, air, and water quality
10 objectives, it shall be the policy of this State to:

11 (1) Foster educational activities that promote a better
12 understanding of Hawaii's limited environmental
13 resources~~[-]~~;

14 (2) Promote the proper management of Hawaii's land and
15 water resources~~[-]~~;

16 (3) Promote effective measures to achieve desired quality
17 in Hawaii's surface, ground, and coastal waters~~[-]~~;

18 (4) Encourage actions to maintain or improve aural and air
19 quality levels to enhance the health and well-being of
20 Hawaii's people~~[-]~~;

21 (5) Promote policies that will reduce emissions of
22 greenhouse gases;



1 [~~(5)~~] (6) Reduce the threat to life and property from
2 erosion, flooding, tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes,
3 volcanic eruptions, and other natural or man-induced
4 hazards and disasters~~(7)~~;

5 [~~(6)~~] (7) Encourage design and construction practices that
6 enhance the physical qualities of Hawaii's
7 communities~~(8)~~;

8 [~~(7)~~] (8) Encourage urban developments in close proximity
9 to existing services and facilities~~(9)~~; and

10 [~~(8)~~] (9) Foster recognition of the importance and value of
11 the land, air, and water resources to Hawaii's people,
12 their cultures, and visitors."

13 SECTION 3. Section 226-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

15 "(b) To achieve the transportation objectives, it shall be
16 the policy of this State to:

17 (1) Design, program, and develop a multi-modal system in
18 conformance with desired growth and physical
19 development as stated in this chapter;

20 (2) Coordinate state, county, federal, and private
21 transportation activities and programs toward the
22 achievement of statewide objectives;



- 1 (3) Encourage a reasonable distribution of financial
2 responsibilities for transportation among
3 participating governmental and private parties;
- 4 (4) Provide for improved accessibility to shipping,
5 docking, and storage facilities;
- 6 (5) Promote a reasonable level and variety of mass
7 transportation services that adequately meet statewide
8 and community needs;
- 9 (6) Encourage transportation systems that serve to
10 accommodate present and future development needs of
11 communities;
- 12 (7) Encourage a variety of carriers to offer increased
13 opportunities and advantages to interisland movement
14 of people and goods;
- 15 (8) Increase the capacities of airport and harbor systems
16 and support facilities to effectively accommodate
17 transshipment and storage needs;
- 18 (9) Encourage the development of transportation systems
19 and programs [~~which would~~] that will assist statewide
20 economic growth and diversification;



1 (10) Encourage the design and development of transportation
2 systems sensitive to the needs of affected communities
3 and the quality of Hawaii's natural environment;

4 (11) Encourage safe and convenient use of low-cost, energy-
5 efficient, non-polluting means of transportation;

6 (12) Promote policies that encourage the design,
7 development, and widespread use of transportation
8 systems and vehicles that have reduced emissions or
9 zero-emissions of greenhouse gases;

10 [~~(12)~~] (13) Coordinate intergovernmental land use and
11 transportation planning activities to ensure the
12 timely delivery of supporting transportation
13 infrastructure in order to accommodate planned growth
14 objectives; and

15 [~~(13)~~] (14) Encourage diversification of transportation
16 modes and infrastructure to promote alternate fuels
17 and energy efficiency."

18 SECTION 4. Section 226-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

20 "(f) Priority guidelines for energy use and development:

21 (1) Encourage the development, demonstration, and
22 commercialization of renewable energy sources.



- 1 (2) Initiate, maintain, and improve energy conservation
2 programs aimed at reducing energy waste and increasing
3 public awareness of the need to conserve energy.
- 4 (3) Provide incentives to encourage the use of energy
5 conserving technology in residential, industrial, and
6 other buildings.
- 7 (4) Encourage the development and use of energy conserving
8 and cost-efficient transportation systems~~[]~~ that have
9 reduced emissions or zero-emissions of greenhouse
10 gases.
- 11 (5) Promote policies that encourage the development and
12 use of energy production and transmission facilities
13 that have reduced emissions or zero-emissions of
14 greenhouse gases."

15 SECTION 5. Section 26-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 **"§26-38 Powers and duties of heads of departments. (a)**
18 Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, every power and
19 duty conferred by law and required to be performed by any
20 officer, board, department, bureau, commission, administrative
21 agency, or instrumentality of the State existing immediately
22 prior to November 25, 1959, shall hereafter be exercised and



1 performed by the head of the respective department established
2 by this chapter, whether the head of the department be a single
3 executive, board, or commission.

4 Except as otherwise provided by this chapter, the head of a
5 department may assign any function vested in [~~his~~] the
6 department to any subordinate officer or employee as [~~he~~] the
7 head of the department deems desirable. With the approval of
8 the governor, the head of a department may establish or abolish
9 within [~~his~~] the department any division or other administrative
10 unit to achieve economy and efficiency and in accord with sound
11 administrative principles and practices and procedures.

12 The head of each department may prescribe regulations for
13 the administration of [~~his~~] the department, for the conduct of
14 its employees, for the performance of its business, and for the
15 custody, use, and preservation of records, equipment, and other
16 property pertaining thereto; provided that the regulations shall
17 not be inconsistent with the requirements of chapters 76, 91,
18 and 92, or rules promulgated by the governor, or other laws of
19 the State.

20 (b) The head of each department, through planning
21 processes, internal regulations, policies, rules, and permitting



1 processes, shall reduce, and eliminate where feasible,
2 greenhouse gas emissions in the State."

3 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

6

INTRODUCED BY:

Cynthia Thelen

Della C. Bilant's

Scott K. Ann

Nanni Snow

Mele Carole

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Report Title:

Greenhouse Gases

Description:

Requires state agencies to promote policies that decrease greenhouse gas emissions.

