**S.B. NO.** <sup>266</sup> S.D. 2 H.D. 2 C.D. 1

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GLOBAL WARMING.

### 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 environment of Hawaii. The potential 4 adverse effects of climate change include a rise in sea levels, 5 resulting in the displacement of businesses and residences and 6 the inundation of Hawaii's freshwater aquifers, damage to marine 7 ecosystems and the natural environment, extended drought and 8 loss of soil moisture, an increase in the spread of infectious 9 diseases, and an increase in the severity of storms and extreme 10 weather events.

11 On February 2, 2007, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate 12 Change, a body established by the United Nations, released its 13 fourth assessment of the predicted impacts of global climate 14 change. The panel predicted temperature rises of up to eleven-15 and-a-half degrees Fahrenheit by 2100 and a sea level rise of up 16 to twenty-three inches, with an additional 7.8 inches possible

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if current melting of the ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica
 continues.

3 Climate change will have detrimental effects on some of Hawaii's largest industries, including tourism, agriculture, 4 5 recreational, commercial fishing, and forestry as well as 6 Hawaii's fragile and unique natural resources. Accordingly, the 7 State needs to be prepared to understand and respond to the 8 effects of climate change. While the legislature has taken 9 actions to address the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions through the passage of Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, 10 11 strategies to focus on adaptation need to be investigated and 12 implemented.

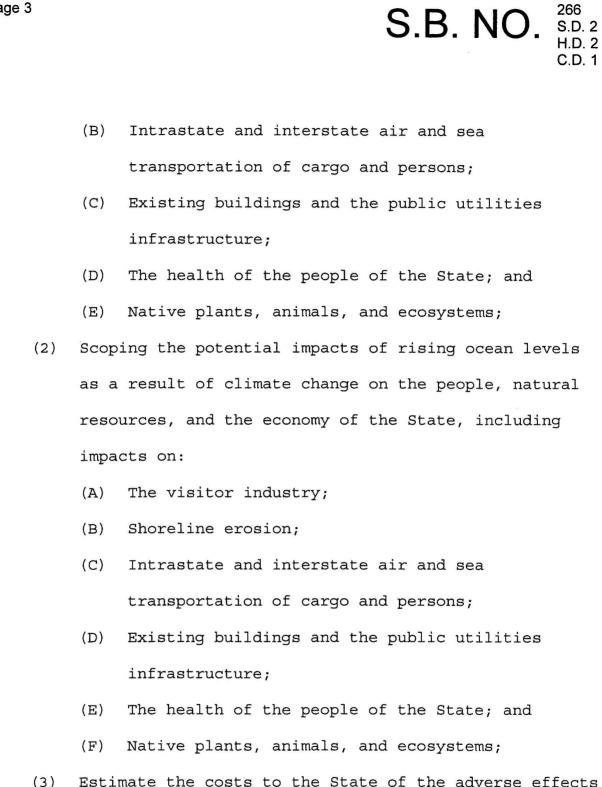
13 SECTION 2. Climate change task force; objectives;
14 membership. (a) The climate change task force is established
15 within the office of planning, for administrative purposes only.
16 The task force shall have the following objectives:

17 (1) Scoping the current and potential impacts of global
18 warming and climate change on the people, natural
19 resources, and the economy of the State, including
20 impacts on:

21

(A) The visitor industry;

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associated with climate change and rising sea levels; and

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| 1  | (4) | Make re | commendations to the legislature and the        |
|----|-----|---------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 2  |     | governo | r on measures that would address or mitigate    |
| 3  |     | the nea | r- and long-term effects of climate change.     |
| 4  |     | Such me | asures may include:                             |
| 5  |     | (A) Pr  | otecting against shoreline erosion;             |
| 6  |     | (B) Ma  | intaining the visitor industry;                 |
| 7  |     | (C) Re  | locating or armoring the transportation         |
| 8  |     | in      | frastructure, such as airports, highways, and   |
| 9  |     | pc      | rts;                                            |
| 10 |     | (D) Im  | plementing restrictions on construction in      |
| 11 |     | ar      | eas at risk for sea level rise and inundation;  |
| 12 |     | (E) Im  | proving or hardening the public utilities       |
| 13 |     | in      | frastructure, including communication lines,    |
| 14 |     | pc      | wer generation systems, water supply systems,   |
| 15 |     | an      | d wastewater treatment and disposal systems;    |
| 16 |     | (F) Pr  | eparing for health emergencies and impacts to   |
| 17 |     | es      | tablished emergency management systems; and     |
| 18 |     | (G) Pr  | eserving the health, biodiversity, and          |
| 19 |     | re      | silience of terrestrial, freshwater, and marine |
| 20 |     | ec      | osystems.                                       |
| 21 | (b) | The cli | mate change task force shall comprise the       |

22 following:

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| 1  | (1) | The director of the office of planning or the          |
|----|-----|--------------------------------------------------------|
| 2  |     | director's designee, who shall act as chairperson;     |
| 3  | (2) | The deputy director of the department of health's      |
| 4  |     | environmental health administration or the deputy      |
| 5  |     | director's designee;                                   |
| 6  | (3) | The director of transportation or the director's       |
| 7  |     | designee;                                              |
| 8  | (4) | The chairperson of the board of land and natural       |
| 9  |     | resources, or the chairperson's designee;              |
| 10 | (5) | The vice-director of civil defense of the department   |
| 11 |     | of defense or the vice-director's designee;            |
| 12 | (6) | One member appointed by each of the mayors of Hawaii,  |
| 13 |     | Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui counties;                    |
| 14 | (7) | Three members appointed by the president of the        |
| 15 |     | senate, of whom one shall be from an environmental     |
| 16 |     | organization;                                          |
| 17 | (8) | Three members appointed by the speaker of the house of |
| 18 |     | representatives, of whom one shall be from an          |
| 19 |     | environmental organization;                            |
| 20 | (9) | The director of the Center for Island Climate          |
| 21 |     | Adaptation and Policy at the University of Hawaii at   |
| 22 |     | Manoa; and                                             |

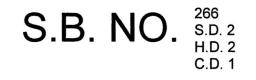
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| 1                             | (10)                                                              | One member from the Joint Institute for Marine and    |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| 2                             |                                                                   | Atmospheric Research to be appointed by its           |  |  |  |  |
| 3                             |                                                                   | administrative board.                                 |  |  |  |  |
| 4                             | Memb                                                              | ers of the task force shall be exempt from section    |  |  |  |  |
| 5                             | 5 26-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and serve without compensation, |                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| 6                             | but shall                                                         | be reimbursed for expenses necessary for the          |  |  |  |  |
| 7                             | 7 performance of their duties, including travel expenses.         |                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| 8                             | (c)                                                               | The task force shall:                                 |  |  |  |  |
| 9                             | (1)                                                               | Submit a preliminary report of its findings and       |  |  |  |  |
| 10                            |                                                                   | recommendations, including any proposed legislation,  |  |  |  |  |
| 11                            |                                                                   | to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to |  |  |  |  |
| 12                            |                                                                   | the convening of the regular session of 2010; and     |  |  |  |  |
| 13                            | (2)                                                               | Submit a final report of its findings and             |  |  |  |  |
| 14                            |                                                                   | recommendations, including any proposed legislation,  |  |  |  |  |
| 15                            |                                                                   | to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to |  |  |  |  |
| 16                            |                                                                   | the convening of the regular session of 2011.         |  |  |  |  |
| 17                            | (d)                                                               | The office of planning shall provide administrative   |  |  |  |  |
| 18                            | 18 and clerical support required by the task force.               |                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| 19                            | (e)                                                               | The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2011. |  |  |  |  |
| 20                            | 20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the tourism            |                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| 21                            | 1 special fund the sum of \$50,000 or so much thereof as may be   |                                                       |  |  |  |  |
| 22                            | necessary                                                         | for fiscal year 2009-2010 and the same sum or so much |  |  |  |  |
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thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 for the
 purposes of this Act.
 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of
 planning for the purposes of this Act.
 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.



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Report Title:

Climate Change Task Force

#### Description:

Establishes the climate change task force to assess the impacts of global warming and climate change trends in the State. (CD1)

