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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the quality of the  
2 environment is as important to the welfare of the people of  
3 Hawaii as is the economy of the State. The legislature finds  
4 that there is increasing demand for the collection and  
5 dissemination of state environmental data to the public, to the  
6 regulated and permitted community, and to the United States  
7 Environmental Protection Agency. The legislature also finds  
8 that the development of specialized environmental information  
9 management systems can greatly assist the department of health's  
10 environmental health administration to provide timely and  
11 comprehensive environmental information to the public, increase  
12 efficiency, and make more informed decisions to better protect  
13 the environment. The legislature finds that an environmental  
14 information management office needs to be established to more  
15 efficiently and effectively collect and disseminate  
16 environmental data. This in turn will greatly assist  
17 environmental programs to make better decisions through the use



1 of enhanced software programs. To maintain current successful  
2 software systems, as well as continue to develop new ones, the  
3 legislature finds that the environmental information management  
4 office should be created in the department of health.

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

8 "CHAPTER

9 ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE

10 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the  
11 context otherwise requires:

12 "Director" means the director of health.

13 "Manager" means the manager of the environmental  
14 information management office.

15 "Office" means the environmental information management  
16 office established in section -2.

17 § -2 Environmental information management office;  
18 establishment. There is established an environmental  
19 information management office to be placed in the department of  
20 health. The office shall be headed by a single executive to be  
21 known as the manager of environmental information management  
22 shall be appointed by the director. The manager may hire staff,



1 as may be necessary. The office shall perform duties under this  
2 chapter and shall serve the director in an advisory capacity on  
3 all matters relating to environmental information management.

4 § -3 Duties. The office shall:

- 5 (1) Promote the use of environmental information systems  
6 and new management innovations such as mobile  
7 applications that enable efficient and nonduplicative  
8 collection and dissemination of environmental data for  
9 department environmental programs, the department, the  
10 State, and the public;
- 11 (2) Provide effective project management to design,  
12 develop, and implement useful and relevant  
13 environmental information management systems;
- 14 (3) Develop and implement environmental information  
15 management policy, in accordance with policy set by  
16 the office of information management and technology,  
17 the department, and the United States Environmental  
18 Protection Agency for environmental health programs  
19 within the department;
- 20 (4) Seek partnerships and funding opportunities with  
21 outside entities to develop and collaborate on new  
22 environmental information management systems and to



1           enhance current environmental information management  
2           systems; and  
3           (5) Promote the federal impetus for environmental programs  
4           to reduce the burden of regulatory reporting  
5           processes, increase efficiencies in data reporting and  
6           accessibility, and facilitate effective coordination  
7           of environmental regulatory data functions."

8           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



**Report Title:**

Environmental Information Management Office

**Description:**

Establishes the Environmental Information Management Office within the Department of Health. Effective July 1, 2030.  
(HB2308 HD2)

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