H.B. NO. 719 H.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LAHAINA FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT.

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

1   SECTION 1.   Twenty-six major floods have hit Lahaina since

2   1879.   On average, there is one flood every five years.   The

3   average cost for flood damage is approximately $700,000 per

4   year.   Lahaina's largest flood occurred in 1960 when it rained

5   21.7 inches in the Kahoma watershed, flooding thirty-six homes

6   and businesses.   Front street and Honoapiilani highway

7   overtopped, and the roads were closed.   In 1960, flood damages

8   were estimated at $320,000.   With the same area now developed at

9   least tenfold, a similar flood would cause an estimated

10 $100,000,000 in damages.   It is also estimated that if Lahaina

11 had a one hundred-year storm, the damages would currently affect

12 one hundred ninety-seven residences, thirty-five condominiums,

13 one hundred fifty-seven businesses, two parks, two schools, and

14 the main roads.

15   The legislature finds that public safety continues to be a

16 major priority for the State and that the completion of the

17 final stage of Lahaina flood control project will help prevent

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1 stormwater from inundating major portions of Lahaina town. The

2 final stage of the project consists of constructing a mile-long

3 diversion channel, incorporating four sediment basins, and a

4 debris basin. Additionally, the flood control project will

5 reduce the amount of sediment discharged into the ocean and on

6 coral reefs, protecting these fragile ecosystems and preserving

7 Hawaii's reputation as a top tourist destination.

8   The purpose of this Act is to reduce the repetitive

9 flooding of residences and businesses in Lahaina and to reduce

10 the constant drain on city, state, and federal resources

11 whenever a flood occurs by appropriating funds to match with the

12 county of Maui to finish the Lahaina flood control project in

13 its last and most critical stage.

14   SECTION 2. The director of finance is authorized to issue

15 general obligation bonds in the sum of   or so much

16 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof

17 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2015-2016 as

18 a state match for the purpose of the Lahaina flood control

19 project in the west Maui soil and water conservation district,

20 as follows:

1   Phase 3B

2   Phase 4 & 5   _____

3   Total funding

4   SECTION 3. The director of finance shall use this

5 appropriation to match moneys appropriated by the county of Maui

6 for the Lahaina flood control project; provided that the moneys

7 appropriated by the county of Maui for this purpose are not less

8 than   or twenty per cent of the estimated cost of the

9 project.

10   SECTION 4. The appropriation made for the capital

11 improvement project authorized by section 2 of this Act shall

12 not lapse at the end of the fiscal biennium for which the

13 appropriation is made; provided that all moneys from the

14 appropriation that are unencumbered as of June 30, 2018, shall

15 lapse as of that date.

16   SECTION 5. The sum appropriated for the capital project

17 set forth in section 2 shall be expended by the department of

18 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

19   SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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Report Title:
General Obligation Bonds; CIP; Lahaina Flood Control Project

Description:
Authorizes the issuance of GO bonds and appropriates funds for the Lahaina Flood Control Project. Requires the appropriation to be matched by county funds. (HB719 HD1)