A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BONDS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to restrict the use
- 2 of general obligation or revenue bond proceeds to pay for the
- 3 unfunded pension or healthcare long-term liabilities incurred
- 4 for state employees and retirees, by requiring a two-thirds
- 5 majority vote of each house of the legislature to enact
- 6 legislation that authorizes the use of bond proceeds for such
- 7 purposes.
- 8 The department of budget and finance prepared the "State of
- 9 Hawaii Debt Management Policy" pursuant to Act 149, Session Laws
- 10 of Hawaii 2015. The policy lists "[u]nfunded pension or
- 11 healthcare long-term liabilities" among the general purposes for
- 12 which debt may be issued.
- However, the legislature finds that utilizing general
- 14 obligation or revenue bond proceeds to pay for unfunded pension
- 15 or other post-employment benefits liabilities is contrary to
- 16 good public policy and responsible long-term fiscal policy.

- 1 Therefore, while the State has not used bond proceeds to
- 2 pay such liabilities, the legislature finds that the authority
- 3 to do so in the future should be restricted.
- 4 SECTION 2. Chapter 39, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
- 5 by adding a new section to part VII to be appropriately
- 6 designated and to read as follows:
- 7 "§39- Restriction on use of bonds for unfunded pension
- 8 or other post-employment benefit liabilities. The proceeds of
- 9 general obligation or revenue bonds shall not be used to pay for
- 10 the unfunded pension or other post-employment benefit
- 11 liabilities accrued for state employees and retirees, except by
- 12 a bill approved on final reading by a two-thirds majority vote
- 13 of the members to which each house of the legislature is
- 14 entitled."
- 15 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on August 30, 2050.

S.B. NO. 725 S.D. 1

Report Title:

Bonds; Restriction for Pension and OPEB Liabilities

Description:

Restricts the use of general obligation or revenue bond proceeds to pay for the unfunded pension or other post-employment benefit liabilities accrued for state employees or retirees, by requiring a two-thirds majority vote of each house of the legislature to enact legislation that authorizes the use of bond proceeds for such purposes. Effective August 30, 2050. (SD1)

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