
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds, as declared in the World
2 Conservation Congress Hawai'i Commitments of 2016, that "[w]e
3 must undertake profound transformations in how human societies
4 live on Earth, with particular attention to making our patterns
5 of production and consumption more sustainable. We must
6 recognize that human health and [well-being] depend on healthy
7 ecosystems. We must recognize that every form of life has value
8 - regardless of its worth to humans." Hawaii has been a leader
9 in conservation efforts for decades, through its commitment to
10 environmental and sustainability policies. In the 1970s, the
11 State enacted the State Environmental Policy, chapter 344,
12 Hawaii Revised Statutes, as a mechanism to set environmental
13 goals. Our understanding of the challenges facing our natural
14 environment worldwide has changed remarkably since the 1970s,
15 and the laws enacted in Hawaii in recent decades have served as
16 a starlight for other jurisdictions and set a global example on
17 how to adopt policies on sustainability. More recently, several



1 approaches to sustainability have emerged in Hawaii, including
2 the Aloha+ Challenge, the governor's Sustainable Hawai'i
3 Initiative, and other initiatives inspired by the Mālama Honua
4 Worldwide Voyage and Mālama Hawai'i.

5 In July of 2014, the State launched the Aloha+ Challenge, a
6 statewide commitment to sustainability, with the leadership of
7 the governor, four county mayors, Office of Hawaiian Affairs,
8 legislature, and Hawai'i Green Growth public-private partners
9 across the State. *The Aloha+ Challenge: He Nohona 'Ae'oia, A*
10 *Culture of Sustainability*, builds on Hawaii's history of systems
11 thinking, Hawaiian culture and values, and successful track
12 record on sustainability to outline six ambitious goals to be
13 achieved by 2030:

14 (1) Clean energy: Achieve seventy per cent clean energy,
15 with forty per cent from renewables and thirty per
16 cent from efficiency;

17 (2) Local food: At least double local food production for
18 local consumption;

19 (3) Natural resource management: Reverse the trend of
20 natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing
21 freshwater security, watershed protection, community-



1 based marine management, invasive species control, and
2 restoration of native species;

3 (4) Waste reduction: Reduce the solid waste stream prior
4 to disposal by seventy per cent through source
5 reduction, recycling, bioconversion, and landfill
6 diversion methods;

7 (5) Smart sustainable communities: Increase livability
8 and resilience in the built environment through
9 planning and implementation at the state and county
10 levels; and

11 (6) Green workforce and education: Increase local green
12 jobs and education to implement these goals.

13 To increase the efforts of the Aloha+ Challenge, the
14 governor launched the Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative in 2016,
15 which includes five goals:

16 (1) Double local food production by 2020;

17 (2) Implement Hawaii's interagency biosecurity plan by
18 2027;

19 (3) Protect thirty per cent of the highest priority
20 watersheds by 2030;



- 1 (4) Manage thirty per cent of nearshore ocean waters by
2 2030; and
- 3 (5) Achieve one hundred per cent renewable energy in
4 electricity by 2045.

5 In May of 2014, Hōkūle'a began a three-year voyage across
6 the world's oceans carrying the message of Mālama Honua - to
7 care for the earth. Building on the legacy of the Polynesian
8 wayfinders, the Hōkūle'a Worldwide Voyage inspired actions of
9 conservation across the Hawaiian Islands and beyond, resulting
10 in the connection of a lei of aloha around the globe.

11 At the global level, the United Nations Sustainable
12 Development Goals, the World Conservation Congress Hawai'i
13 Commitments of 2016, and the Paris Climate Agreement have been
14 adopted to guide global efforts. The Sustainable Development
15 Goals (SDGs), otherwise known as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
16 Development, were born at the United Nations Conference on
17 Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012, came into
18 force in 2015, and are a universal call to action to end
19 poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy
20 peace and prosperity. The seventeen SDGs are interconnected and
21 work in the spirit of partnership and pragmatism to make the



1 right choices now to improve life, in a sustainable way, for
2 future generations. They provide a clear framework for action
3 to guide countries in accordance with their own priorities and
4 the environmental challenges of the world at large. They tackle
5 the root causes of poverty and unite us together to make a
6 positive change for both people and planet.

7 Dealing with the threat of climate change impacts how we
8 manage our fragile natural resources, achieving gender equality
9 and better health helps eradicate poverty, and fostering peace
10 and inclusive societies will reduce inequalities and help
11 economies prosper. The SDGs are voluntary commitments to make
12 the world a better and more prosperous place.

13 During September 2016, over ten thousand leaders from
14 government, civil society, indigenous communities, faith and
15 spiritual traditions, the private sector, and academia gathered
16 in Hawaii for a meeting of the International Union for
17 Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress. Delegates
18 to the Congress adopted the World Conservation Congress Hawai'i
19 Commitments to achieve the transformation required to promote a
20 "Culture of Conservation". The Hawai'i Commitments consist of
21 seven identified challenges and proposed solutions, including:



- (1) Linking spirituality, religion, culture, and conservation;
- (2) Engaging and empowering youth;
- (3) The challenge of sustaining the global food supply and conserving nature;
- (4) The challenge of preserving the health of the world ocean;
- (5) The challenge of ending wildlife trafficking;
- (6) The challenge of engaging with the private sector; and
- (7) The challenge of climate change.

The Hawai'i Commitments build on the Paris Climate Agreement and the SDGs to allow different global voices to come together and find common ground in the spirit of partnership, collaboration, and sustainability.

In order for Hawaii to continue to serve as a starlight for the rest of the world in setting policies on sustainability and to serve as global leader on issues of conservation and sustainability, it is essential that the State demonstrate its full commitment to its own policies and goals as well as the goals set on the international stage at United Nations conferences and summits on sustainability.



1 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to codify the State's
2 commitment to conservation and sustainability by including goal
3 three, good health and well-being, of the seventeen United
4 Nations SDGs and indicators, with references to existing state
5 sustainability programs, if applicable, in the Hawaii Revised
6 Statutes.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 344, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
9 and to read as follows:

10 "§344- Sustainable development goals; good health and
11 well-being. In pursuance of the State's sustainability goals,
12 and notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all agencies,
13 insofar as practicable, shall take action to assist the State in
14 achieving the sustainable development goal of ensuring healthy
15 lives and promoting well-being for all by 2030 by:

- 16 (1) Ensuring that the state maternal mortality ratio is
17 less than ten per one hundred thousand live births;
18 (2) Ending preventable deaths of newborns and children
19 under five years of age, with all counties aiming to
20 ensure that the neonatal mortality rate does not
21 exceed four per one thousand live births and the



1 under-five-years-of-age mortality rate does not exceed
2 six per one thousand live births;

3 (3) Ending the epidemics of human immunodeficiency virus
4 (HIV), acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS),
5 tuberculosis, and neglected tropical diseases, and
6 combating hepatitis, mumps, rat lung worm disease,
7 dengue fever, water-borne diseases, and other
8 communicable diseases;

9 (4) Reducing premature mortality from non-communicable
10 diseases by one-third, compared to 2018 levels,
11 through prevention and treatment and promoting mental
12 health and well-being;

13 (5) Strengthening the prevention and treatment of
14 substance abuse, including narcotic drug and alcohol
15 abuse;

16 (6) Reducing the number of state deaths and injuries from
17 road traffic accidents by one-half, compared to 2018
18 levels;

19 (7) Ensuring universal access to sexual and reproductive
20 health care services, including family planning,



information and education, and the integration of
reproductive health into state programs;

(8) Achieving universal health coverage, including
financial risk protection; access to quality essential
health care services; and access to safe, effective,
quality, and affordable essential medicines and
vaccines for all people in Hawaii;

(9) Substantially reducing the number of deaths and
illnesses from hazardous chemicals and air, water, and
soil pollution and contamination;

(10) Substantially reducing tobacco use among persons of
all ages;

(11) Substantially increasing health financing and the
recruitment, development, training, and retention of
the health workforce in the State, particularly in
rural areas; and

(12) Strengthening the capacity of all counties for early
warning, risk reduction, and management of national
and global health risks."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Sustainable Development Goals; United Nations Goals

Description:

Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal three for good health and well-being.
(SD1)

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