
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 wellbeing 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. While comprehensive, it lacked measurable indicators and
14 enforcement means. Our understanding of the challenges facing
15 our natural environment worldwide has changed remarkably since
16 the 1970s. The laws enacted in Hawaii in recent decades have
17 served as an example for other jurisdictions and set a global



1 example on how to adopt policies on sustainability. More
2 recently, several approaches to sustainability have emerged in
3 Hawaii, including the governor's Sustainable Hawaii Initiative
4 and other initiatives inspired by the Mālama Honua Worldwide
5 Voyage and Mālama Hawaii.

6 The governor launched the Sustainable Hawaii Initiative in
7 2016, which includes five goals:

- 8 (1) Double local food production by 2020;
- 9 (2) Implement Hawaii's interagency biosecurity plan by
10 2027;
- 11 (3) Protect watersheds;
- 12 (4) Manage thirty per cent of nearshore ocean waters by
13 2030; and
- 14 (5) Achieve one hundred per cent renewable energy in
15 electricity by 2045.

16 In May of 2014, Hōkūle'a began a three-year voyage across
17 the world's oceans carrying the message of Mālama Honua - to
18 care for the earth. Building on the legacy of the Polynesian
19 way finders, the Hōkūle'a Worldwide Voyage inspired actions of
20 conservation across the Hawaiian Islands and beyond, resulting
21 in the connection of a lei of aloha around the globe.



1 At the global level, the United Nations Sustainable
2 Development Goals, the World Conservation Congress Hawai'i
3 Commitments of 2016, and the Paris Climate Agreement have been
4 adopted to guide global efforts. The sustainable development
5 goals, otherwise known as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable
6 Development, which were born at the United Nations Conference on
7 Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro in 2012 and came into
8 force in 2015, are a universal call to action to end poverty,
9 protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and
10 prosperity. The seventeen sustainable development goals are
11 interconnected and work in the spirit of partnership and
12 pragmatism to make the right choices now to improve life, in a
13 sustainable way, for future generations. They provide a clear
14 framework for action to guide countries in accordance with their
15 own priorities and the environmental challenges of the world at
16 large. They also tackle the root causes of poverty and unite us
17 together to make a positive change for both people and the
18 planet.

19 Dealing with the threat of climate change impacts how we
20 manage our fragile natural resources, achieving gender equality
21 and better health helps eradicate poverty, and fostering



1 peaceful and inclusive societies will reduce inequalities and
2 help economies prosper. The sustainable development goals are
3 voluntary commitments to make the world a better and more
4 prosperous place.

5 During September 2016, over ten thousand leaders from
6 government, civil society, indigenous communities, faith and
7 spiritual traditions, the private sector, and academia gathered
8 in Hawaii for a meeting of the International Union for
9 Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress. Delegates
10 to the Congress adopted the World Conservation Congress Hawai'i
11 Commitments in order to achieve the transformation required to
12 promote a "Culture of Conservation". The Hawaii Commitments
13 consist of seven identified challenges and proposed solutions,
14 including:

- 15 (1) Linking spirituality, religion, culture, and
16 conservation;
- 17 (2) Engaging and empowering youth;
- 18 (3) The challenge of sustaining the global food supply and
19 conserving nature;
- 20 (4) The challenge of preserving the health of the world's
21 oceans;



- 1 (5) The challenge of ending wildlife trafficking;
- 2 (6) The challenge of engaging with the private sector; and
- 3 (7) The challenge of climate change.

4 The Hawai'i Commitments build on the Paris Climate Agreement
5 and the sustainable development goals to allow different global
6 voices to come together and find common ground in the spirit of
7 partnership, collaboration, and sustainability.

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

15 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to codify the State's
16 commitment to conservation and sustainability by including goal
17 six of the seventeen United Nations sustainable development
18 goals and indicators, clean water and sanitation, with
19 references to existing state sustainability programs, if
20 applicable, in the Hawaii Revised Statutes.



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

4 "§344- Sustainable development goals; clean water and
5 sanitation. In pursuance of the State's sustainability goals,
6 notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all agencies, insofar
7 as practicable, shall assist the State in achieving the
8 sustainable development goal of ensuring the sustainable
9 management of water and sanitation and the availability of clean
10 water and sanitation to all by 2030 by:

- 11 (1) Achieving universal and equitable access to safe and
12 affordable drinking water for all;
- 13 (2) Achieving access to adequate and equitable sanitation
14 and hygiene for all;
- 15 (3) Improving water quality by reducing pollution,
16 eliminating dumping and minimizing the release of
17 hazardous chemicals and materials, reducing the
18 proportion of untreated wastewater, and substantially
19 increasing recycling and safe reuse statewide;



1 (4) Substantially increasing water-use efficiency across
2 all sectors and ensuring sustainable withdrawals and
3 supply of freshwater to address water scarcity;

4 (5) Implementing integrated water resources management at
5 all levels in line with the goals of the Sustainable
6 Hawaii Initiative and World Conservation Congress
7 Hawai'i Commitments of 2016;

8 (6) Protecting watersheds, pursuant to the Sustainable
9 Hawaii Initiative, and restoring water-related
10 ecosystems, including watersheds, mountains, forests,
11 wetlands, rivers, aquifers, and lakes;

12 (7) Expanding statewide cooperation and capacity-building
13 support to the counties in water- and sanitation-
14 related activities and programs, including water
15 harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater
16 treatment, and recycling and reuse technologies; and

17 (8) Supporting and strengthening the participation of
18 local communities in improving water and sanitation
19 management."

20 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 28, 2050.



Report Title:

Sustainable Development Goals; Goal Six; Clean Water and Sanitation

Description:

Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal 6, Clean Water and Sanitation. (SB2667 HD1)

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