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



1 starlight for other jurisdictions and set a global example on
2 how to adopt policies on sustainability. More recently, several
3 approaches to sustainability have emerged in Hawaii, including
4 the Aloha+ Challenge, the governor's Sustainable Hawaii
5 Initiative, and other initiatives inspired by the Mālama Honua
6 Worldwide Voyage and Mālama Hawai'i.

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

- 16 (1) Clean energy: Achieve seventy per cent clean energy,
17 with forty per cent from renewables and thirty per
18 cent from efficiency;
- 19 (2) Local food: At least double local food production for
20 local consumption;



(3) Natural resource management: Reverse the trend of natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing freshwater security, watershed protection, community-based marine management, invasive species control, and restoration of native species;

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

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

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

To increase the efforts of the Aloha+ Challenge, the governor launched the Sustainable Hawaii Initiative in 2016, which includes five goals:

(1) Double local food production by 2020;

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



1 (3) Protect thirty per cent of the highest priority
2 watersheds by 2030;

3 (4) Manage thirty per cent of nearshore ocean waters by
4 2030; and

5 (5) Achieve one hundred per cent renewable energy in
6 electricity by 2045.

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

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



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

9 Dealing with the threat of climate change impacts how we
10 manage our fragile natural resources. Achieving gender equality
11 and better health helps eradicate poverty, and fostering
12 peaceful and inclusive societies will reduce inequalities and
13 help economies prosper. The Sustainable Development Goals are
14 voluntary commitments to make the world a better and more
15 prosperous place.

16 During September 2016, more than ten thousand leaders from
17 government, civil society, indigenous communities, faith and
18 spiritual traditions, the private sector, and academia gathered
19 in Hawaii for a meeting of the International Union for
20 Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress. Delegates
21 to the Congress adopted the Hawai'i Commitments to achieve the



1 transformation required to promote a "Culture of Conservation".

2 The Hawai'i Commitments consist of seven identified challenges
3 and proposed solutions, including:

4 (1) Linking spirituality, religion, culture, and
5 conservation;

6 (2) Engaging and empowering youth;

7 (3) The challenge of sustaining the global food supply and
8 conserving nature;

9 (4) The challenge of preserving the health of the world
10 ocean;

11 (5) The challenge of ending wildlife trafficking;

12 (6) The challenge of engaging with the private sector; and

13 (7) The challenge of climate change.

14 The Hawai'i Commitments build on the Paris Climate Agreement and
15 the Sustainable Development Goals to allow different global
16 voices to come together and find common ground in the spirit of
17 partnership, collaboration, and sustainability.

18 In order for Hawaii to continue to serve as a starlight for
19 the rest of the world in setting policies on sustainability and
20 to serve as a global leader on issues of conservation and
21 sustainability, it is essential that the State demonstrate its



1 full commitment to its own policies and goals, as well as the
2 goals set on the international stage at United Nations
3 conferences and summits on sustainability.

4 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to codify the State's
5 commitment to conservation and sustainability by including goal
6 seven, affordable and clean energy, of the seventeen United
7 Nations Sustainable Development Goals and indicators, with
8 references to existing state sustainability programs, if
9 applicable, in the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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

13 "§344- Sustainable development goals; affordable and
14 clean energy. In pursuance of the State's sustainability goals,
15 and notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all agencies shall,
16 insofar as practicable, take action to assist the State in
17 achieving the sustainable development goal of ensuring access to
18 affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by
19 2030, unless otherwise indicated in this section, by:

20 (1) Ensuring universal access to affordable, reliable, and
21 modern energy services;



1 (2) Achieving seventy per cent clean energy, with forty
2 per cent from renewable energy sources and thirty per
3 cent from efficiency, pursuant to the goals of the
4 Aloha+ Challenge;

5 (3) Achieving one hundred per cent renewable energy in
6 electricity by 2045, pursuant to the goals of the
7 Sustainable Hawaii Initiative;

8 (4) Enhancing statewide cooperation to facilitate access
9 to clean energy research and technology, including
10 renewable energy and energy efficiency, and promoting
11 investment in clean energy infrastructure and clean
12 energy technology; and

13 (5) Expanding clean energy infrastructure and upgrading
14 related technology for supplying modern and
15 sustainable energy services for all."

16 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 28, 2045.



Report Title:

Sustainable Development Goals; Goal Seven; Affordable and Clean Energy

Description:

Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal Seven, affordable and clean energy.
(SB2668 HD1)

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