
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." Hawai'i 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.

14 In May of 2014, Hōkūle'a began a three-year voyage across
15 the world's oceans carrying the message of Mālama Honua - to
16 care for the earth. Building on the legacy of the Polynesian
17 way finders, the Hōkūle'a Worldwide Voyage inspired actions of



1 conservation across the Hawaiian Islands and beyond, resulting
2 in the connection of a lei of aloha around the globe.

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

20 Dealing with the threat of climate change impacts how we
21 manage our fragile natural resources, achieving gender equality



1 and better health helps eradicate poverty, and fostering peace
2 and inclusive societies will reduce inequalities and help
3 economies prosper. The SDGs are voluntary commitments to make
4 the world a better and more prosperous place.

5 During the September 2016 International Union for
6 Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i,
7 seven challenges and proposed solutions were identified, which
8 are:

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

19 The Hawai'i Commitments build on the Paris Climate Agreement and
20 the SDGs to allow different global voices to come together and



1 find common ground in the spirit of partnership, collaboration,
2 and sustainability.

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

10 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to codify the State's
11 commitment to conservation and sustainability by including goal
12 eleven, sustainable cities and communities, of the seventeen
13 United Nations SDGs and indicators, with references to existing
14 state sustainability programs, if applicable, in the Hawaii
15 Revised Statutes.

16 SECTION 2. Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
18 and to read as follows:

19 "§226- Sustainable development goals; sustainable cities
20 and communities. In pursuance of the State's sustainability
21 goals, and notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all agencies



1 shall, insofar as practicable, take action to assist the State
2 in achieving the sustainable development goal of making cities
3 and communities inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable by
4 2030 by:

5 (1) Ensuring access for all to adequate, safe, and
6 affordable housing and basic services;

7 (2) Providing access to safe, affordable, accessible, and
8 sustainable transport systems for all, and improving
9 road safety, notably by expanding public transport,
10 with special attention to the needs of those in
11 vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with
12 disabilities, and older persons;

13 (3) Increasing livability and resilience in the built
14 environment through planning and implementation at the
15 state and county levels;

16 (4) Strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the
17 cultural and natural heritage of Hawai'i by linking
18 spirituality, religion, culture, and conservation to
19 cultivate a culture of conservation, pursuant to the
20 World Conservation Congress Hawai'i Commitments of
21 2016;



1 (5) Significantly reducing the number of deaths and the
2 number of people affected and substantially decreasing
3 the direct economic losses caused by disasters with a
4 focus on protecting the poor and people in vulnerable
5 situations;

6 (6) Reducing the adverse per capita environmental impact
7 of cities, including by paying special attention to
8 air quality and municipal and other waste management
9 in line with the goals of the World Conservation
10 Congress Hawai'i Commitments of 2016;

11 (7) Providing universal access to safe, inclusive, and
12 accessible green and public spaces, in particular for
13 women and children, older persons, and persons with
14 disabilities;

15 (8) Supporting positive economic, social, and
16 environmental links between urban and rural areas by
17 strengthening development planning in line with the
18 goals of the Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative and World
19 Conservation Congress Hawai'i Commitments of 2016; and

20 (9) Substantially increasing the number of cities and
21 towns adopting and implementing integrated policies



1 and plans toward inclusion, resource efficiency,
2 mitigation and adaptation to climate change,
3 resilience to disasters, and developing and
4 implementing holistic disaster risk management at all
5 levels."

6 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Sustainable Development Goals; Goal Eleven; Sustainable Cities and Communities

Description:

Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal Eleven, Sustainable Cities and Communities.
(SB2672 HD1)

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