

JAN 19 2018

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# 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. While comprehensive, it lacked measurable indicators and  
14 enforcement means. Our understanding of the challenges facing  
15 our natural environment worldwide have changed remarkably since  
16 the 1970s and the laws enacted in Hawai'i in recent decades have  
17 served as a starlight 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 Hawai'i, including the Aloha+ Challenge, the governor's  
4 Sustainable Hawai'i Initiative, and other initiatives inspired by  
5 the Mālama Honua Worldwide Voyage and Mālama Hawai'i.

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

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

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

20 (3) Natural resource management: Reverse the trend of  
21 natural resource loss mauka to makai by increasing



1 freshwater security, watershed protection, community-  
2 based marine management, invasive species control, and  
3 restoration of native species;

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

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

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

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

17 (1) Double local food production by 2020;

18 (2) Implement Hawai'i's interagency biosecurity plan by  
19 2027;

20 (3) Protect thirty per cent of the highest priority  
21 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, Hōkūleʻa 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 way finders, the Hōkūleʻa 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 Hawaiʻi  
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 Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i 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       fifteen, life on land, of the seventeen United Nations SDGs and  
4       indicators, with references to existing state sustainability  
5       programs, if applicable, in the Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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

9       "§344-       Sustainable development goals; life on land. In  
10      pursuance of the State's sustainability goals, and  
11      notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all agencies shall,  
12      insofar as practicable, take action to assist the State in  
13      achieving the sustainable development goal of protecting,  
14      restoring, and promoting sustainable use of terrestrial  
15      ecosystems; sustainably managing forests; combating  
16      desertification; and halting and reversing land degradation and  
17      biodiversity loss by 2030, unless otherwise indicated in this  
18      section, by:

19       (1) Ensuring the conservation, restoration, and  
20       sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater  
21       ecosystems and their uses;



- 1        (2) Promoting the implementation of sustainable management  
2        of all types of forests, halting deforestation,  
3        restoring degraded forests, and substantially  
4        increasing afforestation and reforestation statewide;
- 5        (3) Combating desertification; restoring degraded land and  
6        soil, including land affected by desertification,  
7        drought, and floods; and striving to achieve a land  
8        degradation-neutral world;
- 9        (4) Ensuring the conservation of mountain ecosystems,  
10       including their biodiversity, in order to enhance  
11       their capacity to provide benefits that are essential  
12       for sustainable development;
- 13       (5) Promoting fair and equitable sharing of the benefits  
14       arising from the utilization of genetic resources and  
15       promoting appropriate access to such resources, as  
16       internationally agreed;
- 17       (6) Taking urgent and significant action to reduce the  
18       degradation of natural habitats, halting the loss of  
19       biodiversity, and protecting and preventing the  
20       extinction of threatened species, pursuant to the



World Conservation Congress Hawai'i Commitments of  
2016;

- (7) Taking urgent action to end poaching and trafficking  
of protected species of flora and fauna and addressing  
the demand and supply of illegal wildlife products;
- (8) Implementing Hawai'i's interagency biosecurity plan by  
2027, pursuant to the goals of the Sustainable Hawai'i  
Initiative;
- (9) Integrating ecosystem and biodiversity values into  
state and local planning, development processes,  
poverty reduction strategies, and accounts; and
- (10) Mobilizing significant resources from all sources and  
at all levels to finance sustainable forest management  
and provide adequate incentives to advance  
conservation and reforestation."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

INTRODUCED BY:

*[Handwritten signatures and names]*  
*AC Smith*  
*Mike Gabbard*  
*Don Haskins*  
*Paul Kihoua*  
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# S.B. NO. 2676

**Report Title:**

Sustainable Development Goals; Goal Fifteen; Life on Land

**Description:**

Codifies sustainable development goals based on the United Nations' Global Goal fifteen, life on land.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

