

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change is a
2 major threat to Hawaii. The legislature recognized in Act 32,
3 Session Laws of Hawaii 2017, that "not only is climate change
4 real, but it is the overriding challenge of the 21st century".

5 The legislature also recognized that climate change "poses
6 immediate and long-term threats to the State's economy,
7 sustainability, security, and way of life."

8 The legislature also finds that article XI, section 1, of
9 the Hawaii State Constitution requires the State and its
10 political subdivisions to "conserve and protect Hawaii's natural
11 beauty and all natural resources" for future generations.

12 Further, the Paris Agreement states that "all Parties are to
13 undertake and communicate ambitious efforts" to strengthen their
14 response to the threat of climate change.

15 The purpose of this Act is to require state agencies to
16 conduct climate vulnerability assessments for projects involving
17 building, transportation, or land use change.



1 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "CHAPTER

5 CLIMATE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

6 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
7 context requires otherwise:

8 "Climate vulnerability assessment" means a project analysis
9 that includes a life cycle analysis of the project's gross and
10 net carbon emissions, the vulnerability of the project to
11 climate-related disasters, and possible mitigations and
12 alternatives.

13 "Department" means the department of health.

14 "Project" means any planned building, transportation, or
15 land use change by any public or private entity that may
16 generate significant greenhouse gas emissions in the
17 construction or operation phase of the project.

18 § -2 Climate vulnerability assessment. State agencies
19 shall require a climate vulnerability assessment for all permit
20 applications for projects filed after December 31, 2020.



1 § -3 Rules. The department shall adopt rules pursuant
 2 to chapter 91 to implement this chapter. The rules may include
 3 exemptions for certain projects."

4 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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S.B. NO. 434

Report Title:

Climate Change; Climate Vulnerability Assessment; Paris Agreement; Permits

Description:

Requires state agencies to require climate vulnerability assessments for permit applications for projects involving building, transportation, or land use change that may generate significant greenhouse gas emissions. Applies to permit applications filed after 12/31/2020.

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