

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION
COMMISSION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawai'i climate
2 change mitigation and adaptation commission (commission) was
3 established in 2017 to address the urgent issue of sea level
4 rise in the State. The legislature also established a climate
5 change mitigation and adaptation coordinator (coordinator) to
6 coordinate all duties assigned to the commission. The principle
7 purpose of the coordinator is to assist the commission to expand
8 strategies and mechanisms to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
9 statewide by reducing energy use, adopting renewable energy, and
10 controlling air pollution among all agencies, departments,
11 industries, and sectors, including transportation. In addition,
12 the coordinator will assist the commission and take actions to
13 conserve and enhance long-term sinks and reservoirs of
14 greenhouse gases, by prioritizing the development of parks and
15 greenways and the restoration of native upland and coastal
16 forests and wetlands. Another major focus area for the



1 coordinator is to help the commission with the development of
2 climate change adaptation strategies to reduce impacts from such
3 things as sea level rise, drought, and severe storms.

4 The legislature further finds that in less than a year, the
5 commission has provided the legislature with a comprehensive sea
6 level rise report in which scientific and risk levels are
7 clearly identified. The current position of the coordinator
8 expires at the end of fiscal year 2019, while the commission
9 itself is still tasked with the duties set forth in chapter
10 225P, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Accordingly, the purpose of this
11 Act is to continue funding for the climate change mitigation and
12 adaptation coordinator.

13 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawai'i the sum of \$65,000, or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
16 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
17 2020-2021 for the continued funding of the climate change
18 mitigation and adaptation coordinator position established to
19 assist the Hawai'i climate change mitigation and adaptation
20 commission.



S.B. NO. 561

1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawai'i the sum of \$150,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2020-2021 for program implementation by the Hawai'i climate
8 change mitigation and adaptation commission.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
10 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

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

12

INTRODUCED BY: *Kal Rhoad*

S.B. NO. 561

Report Title:

Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Coordinator; Hawaii
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Department
of Land and Natural Resources; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Climate Change Mitigation and
Adaptation Coordinator position and program implementation.

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