
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SURPLUS MILITARY LAND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that many properties in
2 the State are under federal ownership or control and are being,
3 or have been, used as military facilities. This use has
4 resulted in contamination to the water and soil on and adjacent
5 to many of these properties, or created hazards, such as from
6 the presence of unexploded ordnance.

7 The upcoming expiration of land leases between the State
8 and the United States federal government and the return to the
9 State of ceded lands requires a proactive approach by the State.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a task
11 force that will proactively plan for the remediation and
12 restoration of, and alternative uses for, lands currently under
13 federal ownership and control that are anticipated to be
14 returned to the State.

15 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a surplus military
16 land task force within the office of planning for administrative



1 purposes. The task force shall consist of the following members
2 or their designees:

- 3 (1) The director of the office of planning, who shall
4 serve as the chairperson of the task force;
- 5 (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
6 resources;
- 7 (3) The director of health;
- 8 (4) The chairs of the house and senate standing committees
9 with subject matter jurisdiction encompassing
10 environmental protection and restoration;
- 11 (5) A representative from each of the four counties, to be
12 selected by the mayor of each county;
- 13 (6) A representative from an organization whose mission
14 statement or purpose is dedicated to the remediation
15 and prevention of military debris and site
16 contamination or degradation;
- 17 (7) A representative from an organization with a mission
18 statement or purpose of preserving native Hawaiian
19 traditional and cultural practices and preventing the
20 desecration of the environment;
- 21 (8) A representative from the United States military; and



1 (9) A representative from the United States Environmental
2 Protection Agency.

3 (b) The task force shall proactively plan for the
4 remediation and restoration of, and alternative uses for, lands
5 currently under federal ownership and control that are
6 anticipated to be returned to the State. To accomplish this
7 objective, the task force shall:

8 (1) Create and maintain an inventory of all lands within
9 the State where the federal government claims
10 ownership or control, including a database of relevant
11 leases and their expiration dates and plans for
12 closure of military facilities on those lands;

13 (2) Identify any known contaminants or environmental
14 hazards associated with the inventoried lands, any
15 environmental studies performed in connection with
16 those lands, and any required remediation;

17 (3) Seek input from adjacent communities and appropriate
18 departments and agencies on proposed alternative uses
19 for the lands;

20 (4) Identify lands appropriate for continued set-aside to
21 the federal government;



1 (5) Negotiate with the appropriate federal agencies for
2 the return of ownership and control and the
3 environmental remediation and restoration of parcels
4 still under the ownership or control of the federal
5 government, and a timeline for these actions; and

6 (6) Work on any other objectives deemed necessary by the
7 task force.

8 (c) The task force shall:

9 (1) Submit a preliminary report of its findings and
10 recommendations, including any proposed legislation,
11 to the legislature, no later than twenty days prior to
12 the convening of the regular session of 2023; and

13 (2) Submit a final report on its findings and
14 recommendations, including any proposed legislation,
15 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
16 the regular session of 2024.

17 The reports shall include status updates on each of the tasks
18 specified in subsection (b).

19 (d) The director of planning shall submit annual progress
20 reports to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to
21 the convenings of the regular sessions of 2025, 2026, 2027,



H.B. NO. 1352

1 2028, and 2029. The progress reports shall include updates
2 regarding the implementation of the work identified by the task
3 force and any additional plans, recommendations, or legislation
4 recommended based on new information received by the office of
5 planning relating to the objectives of the task force.

6 (e) The task force shall serve until it has accomplished
7 the objectives of this Act or twenty days prior to the convening
8 of the regular session of 2024, whichever occurs first.

9 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10

INTRODUCED BY: *Lisa Murto*
JAN 27 2021



H.B. NO. 1352

Report Title:

Surplus Military Land Task Force; Remediation and Restoration;
Office of Planning

Description:

Establishes a surplus military land task force to plan for the remediation and restoration of, and alternative uses for, lands currently under federal ownership and control that are anticipated to be returned to the State.

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