
A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO GUARANTEE ALL INDIVIDUALS THE RIGHT TO HAVE A CLEAN AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to propose an
2 amendment to article I of the Constitution of the State of
3 Hawaii to guarantee all individuals the right to have a clean
4 and healthy environment. While the state constitution currently
5 mandates a trust obligation of the State to protect Hawaii's
6 natural beauty and all natural resources, an amendment to the
7 State's Bill of Rights guaranteeing an individual's right to a
8 clean and healthy environment is a necessary complement.

9 SECTION 2. Article I of the Constitution of the State of
10 Hawaii is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately
11 designated and to read as follows:

12 **"ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS**

13 **Section** . Each person has a right to a clean and
14 healthy environment, including pure water, clean air and healthy
15 ecosystems, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural,
16 scenic and healthful qualities of the environment."



1 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
2 be as follows:

3 "Shall the Constitution of the State of Hawaii be amended to
4 provide that each person has a right to a clean and healthy
5 environment, including pure water, clean air, and healthy
6 ecosystems, and to the preservation of the natural,
7 cultural, scenic, and healthful qualities of the
8 environment, as provided by general law?"

9 SECTION 4. New constitutional material is underscored.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;
11 provided that this amendment shall take effect upon compliance
12 with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of the State
13 of Hawaii.



S.B. NO. 502
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Report Title:

Constitutional Amendment; Green Amendment; Environmental Protection

Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment that guarantees individuals the right to a clean and healthy environment, including pure water, clean air, and healthy ecosystems, and to the preservation of the natural, cultural, scenic, and healthful qualities of the environment. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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