

JAN 27 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change is an
2 urgent, unfolding crisis that presents a serious threat to
3 global stability and human existence. In 2018, the United
4 Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a
5 special report on the impacts of global warming and the need to
6 reduce global greenhouse gas emissions well before 2030 to hold
7 warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and avoid the most catastrophic
8 impacts of climate change. Also in 2018, the United States'
9 Fourth National Climate Assessment made clear that climate
10 change will wreak havoc across the United States, and the
11 current pace and scale of national climate action is not
12 sufficient to prevent substantial damage to the economy,
13 environment, and human health in the coming decades. Throughout
14 the United States, communities of color, low-wage workers, and
15 low-income communities have been on the front line of long-
16 standing environmental injustices and have historically borne
17 the brunt of the fossil fuel economy.



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1 The legislature further finds that the State is already
2 suffering from impacts of climate change in the form of
3 increased wildfires, higher air and ocean temperatures, coastal
4 erosion from sea level rise, and extreme rain events. The State
5 will suffer increased and more severe impacts of climate change
6 if global greenhouse gas emissions are not significantly
7 reduced. Climate change will continue to make basic human/
8 necessities such as food, housing, healthcare, transportation,
9 and energy more expensive and difficult to maintain, adding
10 additional pressure to the State's high cost of living. To stay
11 within 1.5 degrees Celsius, major populations throughout the
12 world will need to significantly reduce their per capita
13 emissions by 2030, and Hawaii has already taken some steps
14 toward this goal.

15 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to
16 recommend methods to reduce the use of fossil fuels for the
17 purposes of protecting the environment, reducing wear on traffic
18 infrastructure, decreasing traffic congestion, and reducing
19 motor vehicle accidents.

20 SECTION 2. (a) There is established within the department
21 of land and natural resources the reduction in driving task



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1 force to develop policies and incentives that allow individuals
2 to work from home for the purposes of protecting the
3 environment, reducing wear on traffic infrastructure, decreasing
4 traffic congestion, and reducing motor vehicle accidents caused
5 by operating motor vehicles.

6 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

7 (1) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
8 resources, who shall serve as the chairperson of the
9 task force;

10 (2) The director of transportation;

11 (3) The director of commerce and consumer affairs;

12 (4) Three representatives from private companies employing
13 more than one hundred individuals, who shall be
14 invited by the chairperson of the board of land and
15 natural resources to become members of the task force;

16 (5) Three representatives from private companies employing
17 less than one hundred individuals, who shall be
18 invited by the chairperson of the board of land and
19 natural resources to become members of the task force;



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1 (6) The mayor of the city and county of Honolulu and the
2 mayors of each of the counties of Maui, Kauai, and
3 Hawaii; and

4 (7) Any other individual who the director of land and
5 natural resources believes would be beneficial to the
6 task force.

7 (c) The members of the task force shall serve without
8 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses,
9 including travel expenses, incurred for service on the task
10 force. No member of the task force shall be made subject to
11 chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of that
12 member's participation on the task force.

13 (d) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
14 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
15 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
16 the regular session of 2022. The report shall include:

17 (1) Recommendations on how to allow employees to work at
18 home at least one day per week after the COVID-19
19 pandemic;

20 (2) The types of employees that should be allowed to work
21 at home at least one day per week; and



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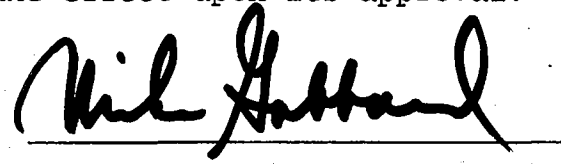
1 (3) Methods to encourage or incentivize companies to allow
2 employees to work at home at least one day per week.

3 (e) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2022.

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

5

INTRODUCED BY:





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Report Title:

DLNR; Work-From-Home; Task Force; Conservation; Fossil Fuel

Description:

Requires the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources to establish a task force to make recommendations on how to allow public and private employees to work at least one day a week to protect the environment, reduce wear on infrastructure, decrease traffic congestion, and reduce motor vehicle accidents.

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