
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HAZARD MITIGATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Congress enacted the
2 Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM)
3 Act, Public Law 116-284, in 2021 to provide the conduit by which
4 states can establish a revolving loan fund and make loans to
5 local municipalities to conduct hazard mitigation and resiliency
6 projects. The legislature further finds that, as emergencies
7 become more prevalent, it is important for the State to take
8 advantage of as many federal funding opportunities as possible.

9 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 10 (1) Ensure that the State is ready to receive federal
11 funds from the STORM Act by establishing the resilient
12 Hawaii revolving loan fund;
- 13 (2) Appropriate funds for the resilient Hawaii revolving
14 loan fund; and
- 15 (3) Establish and appropriate funds for two positions
16 within the Hawaii emergency management agency to



1 provide administrative support associated with the
2 resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 127A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
5 and to read as follows:

6 "§127A- Resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund. (a)

7 There is established in the state treasury the resilient Hawaii
8 revolving loan fund, into which shall be deposited:

9 (1) Funds from federal and private funding sources;

10 (2) Moneys appropriated by the legislature to the fund;

11 (3) Investment and interest earnings of the fund;

12 (4) Moneys received as repayment of loans, including

13 interest and payments received on account of

14 principal; and

15 (5) All other moneys received by the fund from any other

16 source.

17 (b) Moneys in the resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund

18 shall be used to provide low- or no-interest loans to the

19 counties and nonprofit organizations for local resilience

20 projects that address mitigation of all hazards, including

21 natural disasters. Moneys in the fund may be used for



1 administrative support associated with the fund, including the
2 hiring of necessary staff.

3 (c) Loans funded by moneys from the resilient Hawaii
4 revolving loan fund shall be for a fixed loan period and may be
5 used to satisfy the nonfederal match for federal mitigation
6 grants.

7 (d) The resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund shall be
8 administered by the administrator. The administrator shall
9 apply to the Federal Emergency Management Agency under the
10 provisions of the Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk
11 Mitigation Act, Public Law 116-284, when funding is available,
12 to capitalize the fund. Appropriations or authorizations from
13 the fund shall be expended by the agency. The agency shall
14 prioritize loan approvals for projects that the agency
15 determines have the greatest impact on eliminating hazards.

16 (e) The resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund shall be
17 administered, operated, and maintained to remain available in
18 perpetuity to provide loans and other financial assistance
19 pursuant to this section and the federal Safeguarding Tomorrow
20 through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act. All moneys deposited or
21 paid into the fund and any interest earned on the balance of the



1 fund shall be continuously available to the administrator for
2 expenditures consistent with this section and shall not lapse to
3 the general fund.

4 (f) The director of finance shall hold and invest moneys
5 in the resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund in investments as
6 permitted by law.

7 (g) Moneys expended from the resilient Hawaii revolving
8 loan fund shall be supplemental to and shall not take the place
9 of funding that otherwise would be appropriated to the counties
10 for resilience projects.

11 (h) The agency shall establish application procedures and
12 eligibility criteria for loans from the resilient Hawaii
13 revolving loan fund. The eligibility criteria shall require
14 that a county or nonprofit organization demonstrate:

15 (1) The need for a loan to address hazard mitigation; and

16 (2) The ability to repay the loan at a later date."

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to be
20 deposited into the resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the resilient
2 Hawaii revolving loan fund the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the
4 purposes of this Act, including the establishment and hiring of:

5 (1) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) position to
6 support the resilience branch of the Hawaii emergency
7 management agency; and

8 (2) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) position to
9 support the finance and administration section of the
10 Hawaii emergency management agency.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
12 emergency management agency for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2051.



Report Title:

Hazard Mitigation; Resilient Hawaii Revolving Loan Fund; HEMA;
Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act;
Hazard Mitigation; Resiliency Projects; Positions; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the resilient Hawaii revolving loan fund under the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency to make low- or no-interest loans to the counties and nonprofit organizations to conduct hazard mitigation and resiliency projects, using funds anticipated to be available under the federal Safeguarding Tomorrow through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act. Establishes positions. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2051. (SD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

