
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRAILS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii statewide
2 trail and access program, known as nā ala hele, was established
3 in 1988 in response to public concern about the loss of public
4 access to certain trails and the threat to historic trails from
5 development pressure. Nā ala hele addresses trail management
6 and regulatory issues across the State. The legislature notes
7 that according to the Hawai'i state comprehensive outdoor
8 recreation plan 2015 update, there are two areas regarding
9 public hiking identified for improvement:

- 10 (1) Demand for more trails or access to mauka lands; and
11 (2) The need for trail facilities and maintenance.

12 The legislature further finds that Hawaii county faces a
13 particularly acute deficit of trails and public land access.
14 There are currently only three legal hiking trails for non-
15 hunters in west Hawaii, as compared to forty-one on Oahu,
16 thirty-five on Kauai, and nineteen on Maui. Many of the most
17 popular trails in Hawaii county, listed in guidebooks and



1 increasingly publicized on social media, involve trespassing
2 across private property. Statewide, in these areas lacking
3 public access to trails, the public often resorts to trespassing
4 across private lands. This practice poses challenges to public
5 access, safety, and landowner liability.

6 The purpose of this Act is to adequately address the nā ala
7 hele program's needs regarding the protection and expansion of
8 public trail access statewide by appropriating funds for the
9 establishment of a permanent full-time equivalent land and
10 access specialist position and a permanent full-time equivalent
11 abstractor position.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
15 the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)
16 permanent land and access specialist IV position for the nā ala
17 hele program.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
19 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
2 the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)
3 permanent abstractor X position for the nā ala hele program.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Trails; Access; Na Ala Hele Program; Positions; DLNR;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys for the establishment of a permanent full-time equivalent land and access specialist position and a permanent full-time equivalent abstractor position within the na ala hele program for the protection and expansion of public trail access statewide. Effective 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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