
A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO RECOGNIZE AND PROTECT THE INHERENT AND INALIENABLE RIGHT OF ALL PEOPLE TO CLEAN WATER AND AIR AND HEALTHY ECOSYSTEMS, INCLUDING CLIMATE, AND TO THE PRESERVATION OF THE NATURAL, CULTURAL, SCENIC, AND HEALTHFUL QUALITIES OF THE 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 stating that: The fundamental right of the people,
4 including future generations, to clean water and air, a
5 healthful environment and climate, healthy native ecosystems,
6 and beaches, shall be protected and shall not be infringed.
7 This fundamental right is rooted in the traditions and
8 collective conscience of the State's people, including native
9 Hawaiians' traditional and ongoing special relationship to the
10 environment and aina. The amendment will complement existing
11 constitutional provisions and raise up protection of human
12 health, natural, and cultural values of the environment that are
13 sentential to support life in Hawaii.



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

4 "ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

5 Section . The fundamental right of the people, including
6 future generations, to clean water and air, a healthful
7 environment and climate, healthy native ecosystems, and beaches,
8 shall be protected and shall not be infringed."

9 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
10 be as follows:

11 "Shall the Constitution of the State of Hawaii be amended to
12 ensure the fundamental right of the people, including future
13 generations, to clean water and air, a healthful environment
14 and climate, healthy native ecosystems, and beaches, shall
15 be protected and shall not be infringed?"

16 SECTION 4. New constitutional material is underscored.

17 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon
18 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
19 the State of Hawaii.



Report Title:

Constitutional Amendment; Green Amendment; Environmental Protection

Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment that ensures that the fundamental right of the people, including future generations, to clean water and air, a healthful environment and climate, healthy native ecosystems, and beaches, shall be protected and shall not be infringed. (SD1)

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