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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE EQUITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change has  
2 dynamic, interrelated impacts on the Hawaiian islands that  
3 require interdisciplinary solutions. However, climate action is  
4 often inefficiently and ineffectively siloed. The legislature  
5 also finds that because the impacts of climate change prompt and  
6 transform ways of conceptualizing human impacts and responses,  
7 planning for and adapting to these impacts requires society-wide  
8 interventions.

9           The legislature further finds that it is crucial to make  
10 these interventions in the State through greater understanding  
11 of vulnerable populations and climate change-induced  
12 vulnerabilities. These interventions require contextually  
13 relevant and applicable data and tools that are specific to  
14 Hawaii. Understanding the social dimensions of vulnerability to  
15 climate change, including adaptive capacity to climate change;  
16 available data that represent climate change exposure,  
17 vulnerability, and adaptive capacity; and the ability to relay



1 the information in an accessible and dynamic framework, have  
2 remained challenges. The May 2022 report, "Social Vulnerability  
3 to Climate Change in Hawai'i - Data, Indicators, and 'Gap'  
4 Assessment", to the Hawaii climate change mitigation and  
5 adaptation commission identified data gaps that relate to a  
6 range of social vulnerability tools and climate change  
7 exposures.

8 The purpose of this Act is to help communities and county,  
9 state, and federal agencies better understand the social impacts  
10 of climate change in the State by appropriating funds for the  
11 development of a database and data portal from data sources  
12 detailed in the report "Social Vulnerability to Climate Change  
13 in Hawai'i - Data, Indicators, and 'Gap' Assessment" and  
14 accompanying guide; and for the maintenance and updating of the  
15 data portal.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the following sums:

18 (1) \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for  
19 fiscal year 2023-2024 for the development of a  
20 database and data portal from data sources detailed in  
21 the report "Social Vulnerability to Climate Change in



1           Hawai'i - Data, Indicators, and 'Gap' Assessment" and  
2           accompanying guide; provided that the development of  
3           the database shall be coordinated with relevant  
4           stakeholders, including those involved in the existing  
5           hazard mitigation framework; and

6           (2) \$                   or so much thereof as may be necessary for  
7           fiscal year 2024-2025 for the maintenance and updating  
8           of the data portal.

9           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
10          of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

11          SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.

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**Report Title:**

Climate Equity; Social Vulnerability to Climate Change;  
Database; Data Portal; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the development of a database and data portal from data sources detailed in the May 2022 report on social vulnerability to climate change in Hawaii, under certain conditions. Appropriates funds for the maintenance and updating of the data portal. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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

