

JAN 20 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATIVE POLLINATORS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's native
2 pollinators are facing the threat of extinction. Decreasing
3 populations of native pollinators have cascading impacts on
4 Hawaii's environment and biological diversity. While non-native
5 pollinators are important, native species of essential
6 pollinators, such as the nalo meli maoli or yellow-faced bee,
7 are able to cross-fertilize better with native plants that are
8 facing similar threats of extinction. Nalo meli maoli, as well
9 as other native pollinators, have very close plant associations
10 and display strong morphological and behavioral adaptations to
11 native plant species. The loss of these native pollinators
12 therefore further endangers native plants and ecosystems that
13 are already vulnerable, and in a dangerous cycle, the loss of
14 native plant habitats further impacts native pollinator
15 populations.

16 The legislature also finds that preserving native
17 ecosystems is crucial for the perpetuation of Hawaiian culture,



1 as flora and fauna play important roles in ceremony, medicine,
2 food, and other cultural practices.

3 The legislature further finds that state institutions must
4 play a role in nurturing ecosystems that support native plants
5 and pollinators. The University of Hawaii is well positioned to
6 create these ecosystems on its campuses. This work is aligned
7 with the University of Hawaii System's 2023-2029 Strategic Plan,
8 which highlights sustainability as a foundational principle and
9 upholds the University system's "responsibility to the 'āina
10 through its own practices, through education, and by developing
11 solutions to the complex global challenges of climate change,
12 sustainability, and resilience".

13 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to support the
14 revitalization of native pollinators by requiring the University
15 of Hawaii to create native pollinator habitats on campuses
16 across the University of Hawaii system.

17 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
19 and to read as follows:

20



S.B. NO. 1012

1 "§304A- Native pollinator habitats on all campuses.

2 (a) The University of Hawaii shall develop and implement native
3 pollinator habitats to be deployed on all campuses in the
4 University of Hawaii system.

5 (b) The native pollinator habitats shall be integrated
6 into the University of Hawaii's existing land management
7 program.

8 (c) The native pollinator habitats shall be developed
9 using in-house experts and resources."

10 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

12

INTRODUCED BY: _____



S.B. NO. 1012

Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Native Pollinator Habitats

Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii to develop native pollinator habitats to be deployed on all campuses in the University system.

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