
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WILDFIRE PREVENTION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that following the Maui
2 wildfires in August of 2023, the speaker of the state house of
3 representatives established six bipartisan interim working
4 groups tasked with evaluating specific topics in the aftermath
5 of the wildfires and making recommendations for appropriate
6 legislative action in the regular session of 2024. Members of
7 the working groups collaborated with federal, state, and county
8 agencies, along with community stakeholders and interested
9 parties, to identify immediate issues that require temporary or
10 transitional relief for the people and businesses of west Maui.

11 The legislature further finds that the wildfire prevention
12 working group was specifically tasked with identifying the
13 causes of wildfires and preventative action that may be taken to
14 reduce the risk of wildfires throughout the State and preparing
15 recommendations for appropriate legislative action. All working
16 groups released a joint final report in December 2023 detailing
17 their findings and recommendations.



1 The purpose of this Act is to adopt the recommendation of
2 the wildfire prevention working group to increase support for
3 native plant nurseries and seed banking initiatives to provide
4 inventory for watershed restoration projects and projects that
5 restore ecosystems to natural fire patterns.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
9 the department of land and natural resources to develop a native
10 plant nurseries and seed bank initiative program to provide an
11 inventory for watershed restoration projects and projects that
12 restore ecosystems to natural fire patterns; provided that the
13 department shall submit a report of its findings and
14 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, in
15 developing the program to the legislature no later than twenty
16 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

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

19 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
20 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
21 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the



H.B. NO. 1581

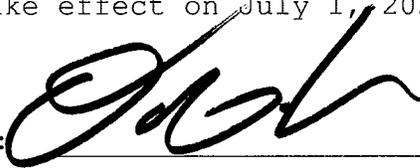
1 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
 2 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
 3 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
 4 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
 5 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
 6 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
 7 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
 8 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
 9 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
 10 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
 11 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 12 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
- 13 serve the public interest; and
- 14 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
- 15 addressed by this Act.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

17

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 16 2024



H.B. NO. 1581

Report Title:

DLNR; Wildfire Prevention; Native Plant Seed Bank;
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of land and natural resources to develop a native plant nurseries and seed bank initiative program.

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

