

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that based on the  
2 findings and recommendations of the house of representatives'  
3 environmental remediation working group, the wildfires that  
4 engulfed urban areas on Maui in August 2023 contained more toxic  
5 chemicals than wildfires that simply consume wood and natural  
6 materials. Materials burned in urban fires can include  
7 household appliances, commercial appliances, vehicles, and  
8 construction materials, which can leave behind a variety of  
9 chemicals, contaminants, and debris that can persist in the  
10 ecosystem.

11           The legislature further finds that conducting air quality  
12 testing and contaminant testing is necessary to monitor the  
13 short- and long-term risks of the Maui wildfires to the  
14 ecosystem, community, and environment. Various state  
15 departments and organizations are conducting testing and  
16 monitoring of air samples to determine any immediate risks, and



1 long-term monitoring is preferable to evaluate whether there are  
2 any long-term risks to human health and the ecosystem.

3 The purpose of this Act is to allocate funding for long-  
4 term monitoring of air quality in communities impacted by the  
5 Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to  
6 better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban  
7 fires.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
11 long-term monitoring of air quality in communities impacted by  
12 the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to  
13 better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban  
14 fires; provided that the sum appropriated shall be allocated as  
15 follows:

16 (1) \$ annually for one full-time equivalent (1.0  
17 FTE) permanent environmental health specialist I  
18 position;

19 (2) \$ for expanding Kula community air sampling  
20 efforts, including equipment and maintenance; and



1           (3) \$                   for expanding Lahaina community air  
 2                   sampling efforts, including equipment and maintenance.  
 3           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 4 health for the purposes of this Act.

5           SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
 6 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
 7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
 8 appropriations contained in H.B. No.           , will cause the state  
 9 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be  
 10 exceeded by \$                   or           per cent. In addition, the  
 11 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund  
 12 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further  
 13 exceeded by \$                   or           per cent. The combined total  
 14 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these  
 15 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling  
 16 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by  
 17 \$                   or           per cent. The reasons for exceeding the  
 18 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 19           (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
 20                   serve the public interest; and



1 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
2 addressed by this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Air Quality Monitoring; Kula; Lahaina; Department of Health;  
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for long-term monitoring of air quality for communities impacted by the Maui wildfires, as well as support for research efforts to better understand the environmental concerns linked to urban fires. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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

