
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) \$ for full-time equivalent (FTE)
17 permanent environmental health specialist I positions;

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

20 (3) \$ for expanding Lahaina community air
21 sampling efforts, including equipment and maintenance.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 health for the purposes of this Act.

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

- 17 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
18 serve the public interest; and
19 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
20 addressed by this Act.



1 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. (HD2)

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