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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE PLANNING ACT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 100, Session  
2 Laws of Hawaii 1978, established the Hawaii State Planning Act  
3 to guide future long-range development of the State. The Hawaii  
4 State Planning Act is comprised of thirteen functional plans  
5 focusing on a wide range of state objectives such as  
6 agriculture, education, housing, energy, tourism, and  
7 transportation. As a broad framework, the Hawaii state plan  
8 establishes standards and policies to guide activities,  
9 programs, and policies made by county and state agencies.

10           In 1983, the State initiated its first comprehensive review  
11 of the Hawaii state plan. The review, completed in 1985,  
12 resulted in the enactment of legislation to refine and address  
13 goals, policies, and objectives of part I and priority  
14 guidelines in part III of the Hawaii State Planning Act. Since  
15 1985, the State has experienced significant economic, physical,  
16 social, and technological changes that have enhanced and  
17 constrained opportunities for the State. Therefore, some



1 findings and recommendations made to the Hawaii state plan in  
2 the initial review may not reflect the State's current needs,  
3 goals, and long-range objectives for the twenty-first century.

4 In light of these circumstances, in 2018, the office of  
5 planning and sustainable development completed phase I of the  
6 comprehensive review of the Hawaii State Planning Act. The work  
7 completed in phase I yielded findings and recommendations that  
8 provide a foundation and scope of a recommended phase II update,  
9 including an approach to align current and emerging conditions  
10 and issues to enhance the effectiveness of planning, the needs  
11 of Hawaii's people, and the future trajectory of the State. As  
12 critical work on the phase I update has been completed, and due  
13 to the pressing challenges facing the State and its residents,  
14 the State is poised to now conduct phase II to update the Hawaii  
15 state plan, consistent with critical data and to formulate long-  
16 term goals and opportunities for greater community engagement to  
17 provide a path toward future economic and sustainable success.

18 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 19 (1) Establish the Hawaii State Planning Act phase II task  
20 force; and  
21 (2) Appropriate funds.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the Hawaii State  
2 Planning Act phase II task force to be placed within the office  
3 of planning and sustainable development for administrative  
4 purposes only.

5 (b) The task force shall:

6 (1) Create a two-year plan to examine the issues  
7 established in subsection (c), clarify and articulate  
8 findings, develop metrics and benchmarks to measure  
9 progress, and develop a final report that describes  
10 how the State is addressing the findings set forth in  
11 the phase I update completed in 2018;

12 (2) Incorporate into the plan how it will coordinate with  
13 other groups, agencies, and programs within and  
14 outside the State to achieve alignment of plans and  
15 their implementation;

16 (3) Incorporate into the plan how it will coordinate with  
17 the counties to achieve alignment of plans and their  
18 implementation; and

19 (4) Consider and incorporate into the plan equity  
20 concerns, including economic and accessibility impacts  
21 to low-income communities.



- 1 (c) The task force shall examine and report on:
- 2 (1) The findings of the original Hawaii State Planning
- 3 Act, including any amendments necessary for relevancy;
- 4 (2) Re-establishment and formulation of a list of long-
- 5 range objectives and focus areas for functional plans
- 6 that place greater emphasis on plan formulation and
- 7 program coordination to integrate state and county
- 8 activities, including but not limited to an evaluation
- 9 of the latest state and county comprehensive economic
- 10 development strategies;
- 11 (3) Definitions in section 226-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 12 that may require amendments;
- 13 (4) Principles and values considered integral to the
- 14 State, including tests for current relevancy and
- 15 necessary amendments;
- 16 (5) Consistency of state goals established pursuant to
- 17 section 226-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in relation to
- 18 departments, counties, and the general public;
- 19 (6) The ability of the Hawaii state plan to provide a
- 20 relevant, multi-disciplinary planning system and
- 21 direction to encourage and facilitate cooperation



1 among various entities, including between the State  
2 and the counties; and

3 (7) Objectives and policies established pursuant to  
4 sections 225-5 through 225-27, Hawaii Revised  
5 Statutes, that are out of date and require updates to  
6 conform with current and long-range goals, which may  
7 be achieved by:

8 (A) Convening sub-working groups to reconsider and  
9 update the objectives and policies;

10 (B) Simplifying and reducing the number of policies;

11 (C) Ensuring functional plans have updated policies;  
12 and

13 (D) Reorienting functional plans to emphasize  
14 coordination between state agencies and the  
15 counties to ensure that functional plans focus on  
16 depth and specificity.

17 (d) The task force shall appoint a coordinator, who shall  
18 be exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

19 (e) The task force shall comprise the following members:



- 1           (1) The director of the office of planning and sustainable  
2           development, or the director's designee, who shall  
3           serve as chairperson;
- 4           (2) The superintendent of education, or the  
5           superintendent's designee;
- 6           (3) A representative from the university of Hawaii  
7           economic research organization;
- 8           (4) Co-chairs of the Hawaii climate change mitigation and  
9           adaptation commission, or their designees;
- 10          (5) The planning directors of each county, or their  
11          respective designees;
- 12          (6) The chairpersons of each county economic development  
13          board, or their respective designees; and
- 14          (7) Other relevant stakeholders, to include non-profit,  
15          academia, business, and Native Hawaiian  
16          representatives, to be invited by the task force and  
17          its chairperson.
- 18          (f) The task force shall submit annual reports of the task  
19          force's progress, completed actions, and findings and  
20          recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the



1 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
2 the regular sessions of 2026 and 2027.

3 (g) The task force shall cease to exist on June 30, 2027.

4 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
5 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
7 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
8 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
9 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by

10 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
11 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
12 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
13 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
14 ceiling are that:

15 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
16 serve the public interest; and

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

19 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for



1 the administration costs of the Hawaii State Planning Act phase  
2 II task force established in section 2 of this Act.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
4 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this  
5 Act.

6 SECTION 5. 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 establishment of full-time equivalent ( FTE)  
10 coordinator position, who shall be exempt from chapter 76,  
11 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to support the Hawaii State Planning  
12 Act phase II task force established in section 2 of this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
14 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this  
15 Act.

16 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

OPSD; Hawaii State Planning Act; Phase II; Task Force; Position;  
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

**Description:**

Establishes the Hawaii State Planning Act Phase II Task Force  
within the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.  
Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

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

