

GOV. MSG. NO. 1319

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

July 8, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 8, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

HB2453 HD1 SD2 CD1

RELATING TO WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.
ACT 218

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024
STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 2453
H.D. 1
S.D. 2
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER INFRASTRUCTURE.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the quality of the
3 environment and the economy of the State are both of utmost
4 importance to the welfare of the people of Hawaii. The
5 legislature, in concert with the United States Environmental
6 Protection Agency and the United States Congress, finds that
7 there is increasing demand for the replacement of aging
8 drinking water and wastewater system infrastructure in the
9 State, the delay of which could pose short-term and long-term
10 health hazards for consumers statewide.

11 The legislature further finds that the drinking water
12 treatment revolving loan fund and the water pollution control
13 revolving fund have been administered by the department of
14 health in ways that manage yearly capitalization grants
15 received from the United States Environmental Protection
16 Agency, but not to the maximum extent allowed under the Safe



1 Drinking Water Act (P.L. 93-523), preventing the construction
2 of health-protective infrastructure projects in Hawaii.

3 The legislature additionally finds that the incorporation
4 of capitalization grant transfer authority between the
5 drinking water treatment revolving loan fund and the water
6 pollution control revolving fund programs, as currently
7 allowed under title 40 Code of Federal Regulations section
8 35.3530(c), can greatly assist the two programs with
9 additional planning and priority setting; maximizing of the
10 two infrastructure funding programs by directing federal funds
11 where they are most needed; and ensuring that annual federal
12 capitalization grant moneys awarded to the two programs will
13 be disbursed as quickly as possible.

14 The restoration of Lahaina and other communities impacted
15 by wildfires or other natural disasters would benefit from the
16 ability to utilize the transfer authority between the programs
17 to replace or repair drinking water, wastewater, or stormwater
18 infrastructure.

19 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to authorize the
20 governor, or a state official acting pursuant to authorization



1 from the governor, to transfer federal capitalization grant
2 funds in accordance with federal law.

3 PART II

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 340E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new section to part III to be
6 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

7 "§340E- Drinking water treatment revolving loan fund;
8 transfers. (a) The governor, or a state official acting
9 pursuant to authorization from the governor, may transfer an
10 amount up to or equal to thirty-three per cent, calculated on
11 the basis of a fiscal year's drinking water treatment
12 revolving loan fund capitalization grant amount from the
13 drinking water treatment revolving loan fund to the water
14 pollution control revolving fund established under section
15 342D-83, or an equivalent dollar amount from the water
16 pollution control revolving fund to the drinking water
17 treatment revolving loan fund established under section 340E-
18 35. The following conditions shall apply:

19 (1) When the State initially decides to transfer funds
20 pursuant to this section:



- 1 (A) The attorney general, or an individual designated
2 by the attorney general, shall have signed or
3 concurred in a certification for the drinking
4 water treatment revolving loan fund and water
5 pollution control revolving fund that state law
6 permits the State to transfer funds; and
- 7 (B) The operating agreements or other parts of the
8 capitalization grant agreements for the drinking
9 water treatment revolving loan fund and water
10 pollution control revolving fund shall be amended
11 to detail the method the State shall use to
12 transfer funds;
- 13 (2) The State shall not use the transfer provision to
14 acquire state match for either fund or use transferred
15 funds to secure or repay state match bonds;
- 16 (3) The State may reserve fund amounts for transfer in
17 future years pursuant to requirements under federal
18 law; and
- 19 (4) Funds may be transferred on a net basis between the
20 drinking water treatment revolving loan fund and
21 water pollution control revolving fund; provided



1 that the thirty-three per cent transfer allowance
2 associated with drinking water treatment revolving
3 loan fund capitalization grants received is not
4 exceeded.

5 (b) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of
6 each regular session, the department of health shall submit to
7 the legislature a report on:

8 (1) All transfers between the water pollution control
9 revolving fund and drinking water treatment revolving
10 loan fund pursuant to this section and
11 section 342D- ; and

12 (2) Whether the transfers comply with federal law."

13 SECTION 3. Chapter 342D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to part V to be appropriately
15 designated and to read as follows:

16 "§342D- Water pollution control revolving fund;
17 transfers. The governor, or a state official acting pursuant
18 to authorization from the governor, may transfer an amount up
19 to or equal to thirty-three per cent, calculated on the basis
20 of a fiscal year's drinking water treatment revolving loan
21 fund capitalization grant amount, from the water pollution



1 control revolving fund to the drinking water treatment
2 revolving loan fund established under section 340E-35, or an
3 equivalent dollar amount from the drinking water treatment
4 revolving loan fund to the water pollution control revolving
5 fund established under section 342D-83. The following
6 conditions shall apply:

7 (1) When the State initially decides to transfer funds
8 pursuant to this section:

9 (A) The attorney general, or an individual designated
10 by the attorney general, shall have signed or
11 concurred in a certification for the drinking
12 water treatment revolving loan fund and water
13 pollution control revolving fund that state law
14 permits the State to transfer funds; and

15 (B) The operating agreements or other parts of the
16 capitalization grant agreements for the drinking
17 water treatment revolving loan fund and water
18 pollution control revolving fund shall be amended
19 to detail the method the State shall use to
20 transfer funds;



- 1 (2) The State shall not use the transfer provision to
- 2 acquire state match for either fund or use transferred
- 3 funds to secure or repay state match bonds;
- 4 (3) The State may reserve fund amounts for transfer in
- 5 future years pursuant to requirements under federal
- 6 law; and
- 7 (4) Funds may be transferred on a net basis between the
- 8 water pollution control revolving fund and drinking
- 9 water treatment revolving loan fund; provided that
- 10 the thirty-three per cent transfer allowance
- 11 associated with drinking water treatment revolving
- 12 loan fund capitalization grants received is not
- 13 exceeded."

PART III

SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

APPROVED this 8th day of July , 2024



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



HB No. 2453, HD 1, SD 2, CD 1

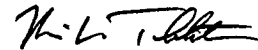
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives




Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate