H.B. NO. **1592** 

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LAND CONSERVATION FUND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the land conservation fund does not receive adequate funding to conserve 2 3 land for watershed protection, coastal preservation, flood 4 prevention, parks, habitat protection, cultural preservation, 5 agricultural production, and open space and scenic resources. 6 The legislature further finds that increasing the revenue stream 7 for the land conservation fund will ensure greater protection of 8 these lands and resources for future generations; grow a more 9 sustainable and resilient future; and help to maintain 10 sufficient open space and breathing room for residents and 11 visitors, all of which serves the best interests of the people 12 of Hawaii.

Additionally, enhanced funding for the acquisition and management of resource value lands strengthens the State's portfolio of high-value, long-term investment in protecting Hawaii's natural capital, and the returns on this investment accelerate community efforts to strengthen resilience, promote

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health and wellness, and continue building and operating new
models of economic opportunity.

The purpose of this Act is to help ensure adequate funding for the land conservation fund and the legacy land conservation program by increasing the maximum amount of conveyance tax revenues to be paid into the land conservation fund from \$5,100,000 to \$10,000,000.

8 SECTION 2. Section 247-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§247-7 Disposition of taxes. All taxes collected under 11 this chapter shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit 12 of the general fund of the State, to be used and expended for 13 the purposes for which the general fund was created and exists 14 by law; provided that of the taxes collected each fiscal year: 15 (1)Ten per cent or [\$5,100,000,] \$10,000,000, whichever 16 is less, shall be paid into the land conservation fund 17 established pursuant to section 173A-5; and 18 (2) Fifty per cent or \$38,000,000, whichever is less, 19 shall be paid into the rental housing revolving fund 20 established by section 201H-202."

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SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

INTRODUCED BY

JAN 1 6 2024

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Report Title:

Conveyance Tax; Land Conservation Fund

**Description:** Increases the maximum amount of conveyance tax revenues allocated to the land conservation fund.

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

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