A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A WILDFIRE FORECAST SYSTEM FOR HAWAII.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that an early detection
- 2 system for wildfire will improve public safety by allowing
- 3 government agencies and emergency management personnel to issue
- 4 timely warnings and enhance the preparedness of first
- 5 responders. The legislature further finds that wildfire risk
- 6 mitigation is a matter of statewide concern.
- 7 The purpose of this Act is to require the university of
- 8 Hawaii to develop a wildfire forecast system for the State.
- 9 SECTION 2. (a) The university of Hawaii shall establish
- 10 and implement a two-year program to develop a wildfire forecast
- 11 system for the State using artificial intelligence approaches.
- 12 The university of Hawaii shall develop the system to forecast
- 13 the risk of wildfire statewide to enhance public safety,
- 14 preparedness, and risk mitigation, including improving the
- 15 preparedness of firefighters and enabling residents to take
- 16 proactive fire mitigation measures for their homes and plan for
- 17 evacuations.



- 1 (b) The university of Hawaii shall submit a report of its
- 2 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
- 3 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
- 4 to the convening of the regular session of 2026.
- 5 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII, of
- 6 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and
- 7 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined
- 8 that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the
- 9 state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025
- 10 to be exceeded by \$, or per cent. The reasons
- 11 for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the
- 12 appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public
- 13 interest and to meet the need provided for by this Act.
- 14 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
- 15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
- 17 the development of the wildfire forecast system pursuant to this
- 18 Act.
- 19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the university of
- 20 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.

Report Title:

UH; Wildfire Forecast System; Public Safety; Preparedness; Wildfire Mitigation; Artificial Intelligence; Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Requires UH to establish a program to develop a wildfire forecast system for the State using artificial intelligence. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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