THE SENATE THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024 STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 2645

JAN 1 9 2024

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMPLIANCE ON HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that illegal activity
 occurring on Hawaiian home lands threatens the health and safety
 of the community.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a compliance and enforcement program within the department of Hawaiian home lands to investigate complaints, conduct investigations, and cooperate with enforcement authorities to ensure compliance with the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended; state laws and rules; and county ordinances and rules applicable to Hawaiian home lands.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

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#### " CHAPTER

#### COMPLIANCE ON HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

16 § -1 Compliance and enforcement program on Hawaiian home
17 lands; established. The department of Hawaiian home lands shall



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establish a compliance and enforcement program on Hawaiian home lands to enforce state laws and rules and county ordinances and rules on Hawaiian home lands. The department of Hawaiian home lands shall employ, appoint, and remove, the following persons, subject to chapter 76 and section 78-1, who shall be provided with suitable badges or insignia of office by the department of Hawaiian home lands:

8 (1) An enforcement chief of the department of Hawaiian 9 home lands, who shall be an administrator experienced 10 in law enforcement and management, and who shall be 11 the head of the compliance and enforcement program and 12 shall have charge, direction, and control, subject to 13 the direction and control of the chairperson of the 14 Hawaiian homes commission, of all matters relating to 15 compliance with the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 16 1920, as amended, and rules adopted thereunder as well 17 as all other state laws and rules, and county 18 ordinances and rules applicable to Hawaiian home lands 19 and other matters as the chairperson of the Hawaiian 20 homes commission may from time to time direct; and



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1 (2) Personnel and enforcement officers of the compliance 2 and enforcement program on Hawaiian home lands, including enforcement officers working on an unpaid, 3 4 voluntary basis. Compliance and enforcement program on Hawaiian home 5 S -2 lands enforcement officers. The compliance and enforcement 6 7 program on Hawaiian home lands enforcement officers, with 8 respect to all Hawaiian home lands shall: 9 Investigate complaints, gather evidence, conduct (1)investigations, and conduct field observations and 10 inspections as required or assigned; 11 12 (2) Cooperate with enforcement authorities of the State, 13 counties, and federal government in development of 14 programs and mutual aid agreements for compliance and enforcement activities on Hawaiian home lands; 15 16 Cooperate with established search and rescue agencies (3) of the counties and the federal government in 17 developing plans and programs and mutual aid 18 19 agreements for search and rescue activities on 20 Hawaiian home lands;

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1 (4) Review and verify all homestead leases, general 2 leases, licenses, and permits and all other land dispositions issued by the department of Hawaiian home 3 4 lands; Enforce the laws relating to firearms, ammunition, and 5 (5) 6 dangerous weapons contained in chapter 134; and 7 Carry out other duties and responsibilities, as (6) 8 directed by the department of Hawaiian home lands. 9 -3 Department of Hawaiian home lands; police powers. S The Hawaiian homes commission shall have police powers. 10 The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission may appoint and 11 12 commission enforcement officers within the compliance and enforcement program on Hawaiian home lands. Persons appointed 13 14 and commissioned under this section shall have and may exercise all of the powers and authority of a police officer, including 15 16 the power of arrest, and may enforce all state laws and rules, and county ordinances and rules on Hawaiian home lands; provided 17 that these powers shall remain in force and effect only while in 18 actual performance of their duties, which shall include off-duty 19 20 employment when off-duty employment is for other state departments or agencies. These enforcement officers shall 21



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consist of personnel whose primary duty will be the enforcement
 of state and local laws on Hawaiian home lands and to carry out
 work related to compliance with Hawaiian home lands leases and
 other land dispositions.

5 S -4 Rules. The department of Hawaiian home lands shall
6 adopt rules, pursuant to chapter 91, necessary for the purposes
7 of this chapter."

8 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII, of 9 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and 10 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined 11 that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the 12 state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by \$ 13 per cent. The reasons for or 14 exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the 15 appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public 16 interest and to meet the needs provided for by this Act. 17 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much 18 19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the

20 compliance and enforcement program on Hawaiian home lands.



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The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 Hawaiian home lands for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;

4 provided that section 4 shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

INTRODUCED BY:

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### Report Title:

Compliance and Enforcement; Hawaiian Home Lands; Appropriation; General Fund Expenditure Ceiling Exceeded

#### Description:

Establishes a compliance and enforcement program within the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to investigate complaints, conduct investigations, and cooperate with enforcement authorities to ensure compliance with laws. Appropriates moneys. Declares that the appropriation exceeds the state general fund expenditure ceiling for 2024-2025.

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

