
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BUILDING PERMITS.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established a uniform building
2 permit working group to study the feasibility of creating a
3 single statewide building permit application package and uniform
4 review and approval process for building permits that can be
5 used by all counties to standardize paperwork, enhance
6 efficiency, and streamline the building permit review and
7 approval process throughout the State.

8 (b) The working group shall address and make
9 recommendations on:

10 (1) The feasibility of creating a single statewide
11 building permit application package, to include any
12 necessary corresponding forms, that can be used by all
13 counties and that complies with all relevant state,
14 county, and federal requirements;

15 (2) The feasibility of establishing a uniform review and
16 approval process for building permits that can be used
17 by all counties;



- 1 (3) The laws, ordinances, or rules, if any, that would
2 impede or prevent the counties from collaboratively
3 creating a single statewide building permit
4 application package or uniform review and approval
5 process for building permits;
- 6 (4) The financial needs and funding mechanisms necessary
7 to implement a single statewide building permit
8 application package and uniform review and approval
9 process for building permits;
- 10 (5) The concrete steps that each county will take
11 individually to minimize delays, enhance efficiency,
12 and streamline their building permit review and
13 approval process, should it be determined that a
14 single county building permit application package or
15 uniform review and approval process is not feasible;
16 and
- 17 (6) Any other relevant issues that may arise, at the
18 discretion of the working group.
- 19 (c) The working group shall consist of the following
20 members:



- 1 (1) The comptroller, or the comptroller's designee, who
- 2 shall serve as chairperson of the working group;
- 3 (2) Two members of the state building code council, to be
- 4 appointed by the chairperson of the working group;
- 5 (3) The chairs of the senate and house of representatives
- 6 standing committees on housing, or their designees;
- 7 (4) The director of planning and permitting of the city
- 8 and county of Honolulu, or the director's designee;
- 9 (5) The director of public works of the county of Maui, or
- 10 the director's designee;
- 11 (6) The county engineer of the department of public works
- 12 of the county of Kauai, or the county engineer's
- 13 designee;
- 14 (7) The director of public works of the county of Hawaii,
- 15 or the director's designee;
- 16 (8) The president of the Hawaii chapter of the American
- 17 Planning Association, or the president's designee, to
- 18 be invited by the chair;
- 19 (9) The president of the Hawaii State Council of the
- 20 American Institute of Architects, or the president's
- 21 designee, to be invited by the chair;



1 (10) The chair of the Hawaii Council of Engineering
2 Societies, or the chair's designee, to be invited by
3 the chair;

4 (11) The executive director of the Hawaii Bankers
5 Association or the executive director's designee, to
6 be invited by the chair; and

7 (12) The executive director of Hawaii Government Employees
8 Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO, or the
9 executive director's designee, to be invited by the
10 chair.

11 (d) The working group may invite additional experts or
12 organizations with relevant knowledge or experience to
13 participate in the working group.

14 (e) The working group may request assistance and feedback
15 from the department of accounting and general services;
16 department of health; department of land and natural resources;
17 department of Hawaiian home lands, and any other departments
18 deemed appropriate; Hawaii community development authority; and
19 city and county of Honolulu and the counties of Maui, Kauai, and
20 Hawaii, to provide expertise to assist the working group in
21 conducting the uniform building permit study. The working group



1 shall further consult with industry stakeholders, who are
2 encouraged to cooperate and provide information or input.

3 (f) The working group shall submit a report of its
4 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
5 legislation, relating to the unified building permit study to
6 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
7 of the regular session of 2025.

8 (g) The members of the working group shall serve without
9 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including
10 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

11 (h) No member of the working group shall be subject to
12 chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of the
13 member's participation in the working group.

14 (i) The working group shall be dissolved on June 30, 2025.

15 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
16 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
17 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
18 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
19 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
20 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
21 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes



1 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
2 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
3 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
4 ceiling are that:

- 5 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
6 serve the public interest; and
- 7 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
8 addressed by this Act.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to
12 establish a uniform building permit working group to study the
13 feasibility of creating a single statewide building permit
14 application package and uniform review and approval process for
15 building permits that can be used by all counties.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
17 accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



Report Title:

Department of Accounting and General Services; Counties; Uniform Building Permit Working Group; Building Permits; Feasibility Study; Report; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a Uniform Building Permit Working Group to study the feasibility of creating a single statewide building permit application package and uniform review and approval process for building permits that can be used by all counties. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Appropriates funds. Takes Effect 7/1/2112. (SD1)

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

