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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE GREENHOUSE GAS SEQUESTRATION TASK FORCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 201-12.8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) Subject to legislative appropriation, moneys from the  
4 fund may be expended by the Hawaii state energy office for the  
5 following purposes and used for no other purposes, except for  
6 those set forth in this section:

7 (1) To support the Hawaii clean energy initiative program  
8 and projects that promote and advance dependable and  
9 affordable energy, renewable energy, energy  
10 efficiency, energy self-sufficiency, and greater  
11 energy security and resiliency for the State and  
12 public facilities;

13 (2) To fund, to the extent possible, the climate change  
14 mitigation and adaptation commission [~~and the~~  
15 ~~greenhouse gas sequestration task force~~];

16 (3) To support achieving the zero emissions clean economy  
17 target set forth in section 225P-5;



1 (4) To fund projects and incentives to promote the  
2 adoption of clean transportation technologies, develop  
3 clean vehicle charging infrastructure, and upgrade  
4 infrastructure to support the development of clean  
5 vehicle charging infrastructure; and

6 (5) To fund, to the extent possible, the duties of the  
7 state building code council in section 107-24, as they  
8 relate to the development of energy conservation  
9 codes."

10 SECTION 2. Section 225P-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 repealed.

12 [~~"§225P-4 Greenhouse gas sequestration task force. (a)~~  
13 ~~The greenhouse gas sequestration task force is established~~  
14 ~~within the office of planning and sustainable development for~~  
15 ~~administrative purposes only. The task force shall have the~~  
16 ~~following objectives:~~

17 ~~(1) Work with public and private stakeholders to establish~~  
18 ~~a baseline for greenhouse gas emissions within Hawaii~~  
19 ~~and short and long term benchmarks for increasing~~  
20 ~~greenhouse gas sequestration in the State's~~  
21 ~~agricultural and natural environment;~~



- 1        ~~(2) Identify appropriate criteria to measure baseline~~  
2        ~~levels and increases in greenhouse gas sequestration,~~  
3        ~~improvements in soil health, increases in agricultural~~  
4        ~~and aquacultural product yield and quality~~  
5        ~~attributable to greenhouse gas sequestration and~~  
6        ~~improvements in soil health, and other key indicators~~  
7        ~~of greenhouse gas benefits from beneficial~~  
8        ~~agricultural and aquacultural practices that may be~~  
9        ~~used to create a certification program for promoting~~  
10       ~~agricultural and aquacultural practices that generate~~  
11       ~~greenhouse gas benefits and agricultural and~~  
12       ~~aquacultural production benefits;~~
- 13       ~~(3) Identify land and marine use policies, agricultural~~  
14       ~~policies, agroforestry policies, and mitigation~~  
15       ~~options that would encourage agricultural and~~  
16       ~~aquacultural practices and land use practices that~~  
17       ~~would promote increased greenhouse gas sequestration,~~  
18       ~~build healthy soils, and provide greenhouse gas~~  
19       ~~benefits;~~
- 20       ~~(4) Identify ways to increase the generation and use of~~  
21       ~~compost in Hawaii to build healthy soils;~~



- 1       ~~(5) Identify practices and policies that add trees or~~  
2       ~~vegetation to expand the urban tree canopy in urban~~  
3       ~~areas to reduce ambient temperatures, increase climate~~  
4       ~~resiliency, and improve greenhouse gas sequestration~~  
5       ~~in Hawaii; and~~
- 6       ~~(6) Make recommendations to the legislature and governor~~  
7       ~~regarding measures that would increase climate~~  
8       ~~resiliency, build healthy soils, provide greenhouse~~  
9       ~~gas benefits, or cool urban areas.~~
- 10       ~~(b) In addition to the objectives listed in subsection~~  
11 ~~(a), the task force may consider:~~
- 12       ~~(1) Developing incentives and funding mechanisms for these~~  
13       ~~incentives, including but not limited to:~~
- 14       ~~(A) Loans, tax credits, or grants;~~  
15       ~~(B) Research;~~  
16       ~~(C) Technical assistance; or~~  
17       ~~(D) Educational materials and outreach,~~  
18       ~~to participating agricultural activities,~~  
19       ~~aquacultural activities, or on-farm demonstration~~  
20       ~~projects that are identified and approved by the~~  
21       ~~task force as those that would promote greenhouse~~



1                   ~~gas benefits, build healthy soils, sequester~~  
2                   ~~carbon, increase water-holding capacity, and~~  
3                   ~~increase crop yields; and~~

4       ~~(2) Providing for research, education, and technical~~  
5                   ~~support for agricultural activities and aquacultural~~  
6                   ~~activities identified by the task force.~~

7       ~~(c) The membership of the greenhouse gas sequestration~~  
8 ~~task force shall be as follows:~~

9       ~~(1) The director of the office of planning and sustainable~~  
10                   ~~development or the director's designee, who shall~~  
11                   ~~serve as chairperson;~~

12       ~~(2) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the~~  
13                   ~~chairperson's designee;~~

14       ~~(3) The chairperson of the board of land and natural~~  
15                   ~~resources or the chairperson's designee;~~

16       ~~(4) The director of transportation or the director's~~  
17                   ~~designee;~~

18       ~~(5) The deputy director of the department of health's~~  
19                   ~~environmental health administration or the deputy~~  
20                   ~~director's designee;~~

21       ~~(6) The state sustainability coordinator;~~



- 1       ~~(7) The director of the environmental law program at the~~
- 2           ~~University of Hawaii at Manoa William S. Richardson~~
- 3           ~~school of law;~~
- 4       ~~(8) The administrator of the division of forestry and~~
- 5           ~~wildlife within the department of land and natural~~
- 6           ~~resources or the administrator's designee;~~
- 7       ~~(9) One member who is also a member of the climate change~~
- 8           ~~mitigation and adaptation commission;~~
- 9       ~~(10) One researcher from the college of tropical~~
- 10           ~~agriculture and human resources at the University of~~
- 11           ~~Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- 12       ~~(11) One extension agent from the college of tropical~~
- 13           ~~agriculture and human resources at the University of~~
- 14           ~~Hawaii at Manoa;~~
- 15       ~~(12) Four members, one each to be appointed by the~~
- 16           ~~respective mayors of the city and county of Honolulu,~~
- 17           ~~and the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui; and~~
- 18       ~~(13) Four members to be jointly selected and invited to~~
- 19           ~~participate by the president of the senate and the~~
- 20           ~~speaker of the house of representatives, of which two~~
- 21           ~~members shall be selected from an environmental~~



1           ~~nonprofit organization, and two members shall be~~  
2           ~~selected from an agricultural or ranching association.~~

3           ~~Task force members may recommend to the task force~~  
4           ~~additional members with appropriate specialized expertise,~~  
5           ~~subject to approval by the chairperson.~~

6           ~~(d) Members of the task force shall be nominated and~~  
7           ~~appointed pursuant to, and subject to section 26-34 and shall~~  
8           ~~serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for~~  
9           ~~reasonable expenses necessary for the performance of their~~  
10          ~~duties, including travel expenses.~~

11          ~~(e) The greenhouse gas sequestration task force shall:~~

12          ~~(1) Submit a preliminary report of its findings and~~  
13           ~~recommendations, including any proposed legislation,~~  
14           ~~to the legislature and the climate change mitigation~~  
15           ~~and adaptation commission no later than twenty days~~  
16           ~~prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023;~~  
17           ~~provided that the preliminary report shall discuss the~~  
18           ~~objectives and issues listed in subsections (a) and~~  
19           ~~(b), including the following:~~

20           ~~(A) Types of agricultural and aquacultural practices,~~  
21           ~~public land and marine use policies, and on-farm~~



- 1 ~~managing practices that would provide greenhouse~~  
2 ~~gas benefits and result in tangible economic~~  
3 ~~benefits to agricultural and aquacultural~~  
4 ~~operations;~~
- 5 ~~(B) Short-term and long-term benchmarks that would~~  
6 ~~indicate how effectively agricultural and~~  
7 ~~aquacultural activities have been helping the~~  
8 ~~State to reach greenhouse gas neutrality;~~
- 9 ~~(C) Appropriate criteria that may be used in a~~  
10 ~~certification program to measure baseline levels~~  
11 ~~and increases in carbon sequestration,~~  
12 ~~improvements in soil health, and other key~~  
13 ~~indicators of greenhouse gas benefits from~~  
14 ~~beneficial agricultural and aquacultural~~  
15 ~~practices;~~
- 16 ~~(D) Types of incentives, grants, research, and~~  
17 ~~assistance that would promote:~~
- 18 ~~(i) Agricultural and aquacultural practices to~~  
19 ~~produce greenhouse gas benefits; and~~
- 20 ~~(ii) Land and marine use policies and~~  
21 ~~agricultural policies that would encourage~~



1                   ~~agricultural, aquacultural, and land use~~  
2                   ~~practices to provide greenhouse gas benefits~~  
3                   ~~and result in tangible economic benefits to~~  
4                   ~~agricultural and aquacultural operations;~~  
5                   ~~and~~

6           ~~(E) Practices and policies that add trees or~~  
7           ~~vegetation to expand the urban tree canopy in~~  
8           ~~urban areas to reduce ambient temperatures and~~  
9           ~~increase climate resiliency and improve~~  
10           ~~greenhouse gas sequestration in Hawaii; and~~

11       ~~(2) Beginning with the regular session of 2024, submit an~~  
12       ~~annual report of its findings and recommendations,~~  
13       ~~including any proposed legislation, to the legislature~~  
14       ~~and the climate change mitigation and adaptation~~  
15       ~~commission no later than twenty days prior to the~~  
16       ~~convening of each regular session.~~

17       ~~(f) The office of planning and sustainable development~~  
18       ~~shall provide administrative and clerical support required by~~  
19       ~~the task force." ]~~

20           SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
21       and stricken.



**1** SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force; Repeal

**Description:**

Repeals the Greenhouse Gas Sequestration Task Force. (SD1)

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

