

JAN 17 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO POLOLU VALLEY MANAGEMENT EFFORTS ON HAWAII ISLAND.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Pololu Valley, on
2 the northern coast of Hawaii Island, is a place of unparalleled
3 natural beauty, characterized by its lush landscapes, diverse
4 flora and fauna, and cultural significance to Native Hawaiians.
5 Pololu Valley serves as a vital ecosystem, providing habitat to
6 various endemic and endangered species, contributing to the
7 region's ecological balance, and offering invaluable
8 opportunities for scientific research and environmental
9 education.

10 The legislature also finds that preserving and protecting
11 Pololu Valley is essential to safeguarding its unique
12 ecological, cultural, and historical attributes to benefit
13 present and future generations. Currently, high levels of
14 tourism produce a significant impact on the area. The lack of
15 nearby restrooms and visitor education efforts have contributed
16 to safety and litter issues, with plastics that are left behind
17 on the trail eventually washing up on the shoreline. Without



1 active management, the condition of Pololu Valley will continue
2 to deteriorate.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
4 moneys to the division of forestry and wildlife of the
5 department of land and natural resources for the management of
6 Pololu Valley, including various improvements necessary for
7 conservation and protection.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 for Pololu
11 Valley management and conservation, including:

- 12 (1) Development of the trailhead;
- 13 (2) Development of infrastructure necessary to accommodate
14 parking;
- 15 (3) Installation of appropriate informational, historical,
16 and educational signage;
- 17 (4) Design and construction of restroom facilities;
- 18 (5) Establishment of full-time equivalent (.0 FTE)
19 positions to manage the trail area during operational
20 hours; and



1 (6) Other provisions of the Pololu lookout management
2 plan.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 land and natural resources division of forestry and wildlife for
5 the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Donald W. Richards* 40



S.B. NO. 565

Report Title:

Pololu Valley; DLNR; DOFAW; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys for Pololu Valley management, including for the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the Department of Land and Natural Resources to develop the trailhead; develop the infrastructure necessary to accommodate parking; install appropriate informational, historical, and educational signage; design and construct restroom facilities; and establish positions to manage the trail area. Effective 7/1/2050.

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

