

JAN 17 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the use of chemical-
2 based sunscreen is detrimental to the health of Hawai'i's coral
3 reef ecosystems. The National Ocean Service finds that the
4 chemicals in both lotion and aerosol sunscreens can impair the
5 growth of plants, stunt and deform animals, and contribute to
6 the bleaching of coral. In 2018, the legislature passed Senate
7 Bill No. 2571, S.D. 2, H.D. 2, C.D. 1, signed into law as
8 Act 104, that bans the sale, offer for sale, or distribution of
9 any sunscreen in the State that contains oxybenzone or
10 octinoxate, or both, without a medically-licensed prescription.
11 Recently, there have been additional efforts to expand the ban
12 to include more chemicals, such as avobenzone and octocrylene,
13 that negatively impact Hawai'i's fragile coral reefs. However,
14 opponents have expressed concerns with limited stock of approved
15 sunscreens available on island for consumers, which has halted
16 efforts to further protect Hawai'i's coral reefs.



1 The legislature further finds that an alternative mineral-
2 based sunscreen exists that protects consumers from skin cancer
3 and does not harm the reef ecosystems. The first dispenser of
4 this sunscreen in a Hawai'i state park was established in
5 November 2021 at the Waialae section of Hāpuna state recreation
6 area on the west coast of Hawai'i island. The legislature also
7 finds that the deployment of sunscreen dispensers at state
8 beaches will ease the burden of securing reef-safe sunscreens
9 for use by residents and visitors alike, as well as further
10 protect Hawai'i's coral reef ecosystems.

11 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 12 (1) Expand the use of the mineral-based sunscreen
13 dispensers to all state beaches to decrease the amount
14 of chemicals impacting Hawai'i's reef ecosystems; and
15 (2) Authorize the department of land and natural resources
16 to contract or form a partnership with private
17 parties, such as hotels, community organizations, and
18 nonprofit organizations with an environmental
19 protection mission, to assist in the maintenance and
20 management of installed mineral-based sunscreen
21 dispensers at state beaches, as well as publicize that



1 the mineral-based sunscreen in these dispensers is
2 more protective of the coral reefs of the State.

3 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources
4 may contract or form a partnership with private parties,
5 including hotels, community organizations, and nonprofit
6 organizations with an environmental protection mission, to
7 assist in the maintenance, management, and operation of
8 installed mineral-based sunscreen dispensers at all state
9 beaches, as well as publicize that the mineral-based sunscreen
10 in these dispensers is more protective of the coral reefs of the
11 State.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
15 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
16 2026-2027 for the department of land and natural resources to
17 install, maintain, manage, and operate mineral-based sunscreen
18 dispensers at all state beaches.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
20 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

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INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'DKR' in a stylized, cursive font, written over a horizontal line.

S.B. NO. 840

Report Title:

DLNR; Non-Chemical Sunscreen Dispensers; State Beaches;
Appropriations

Description:

Allows the Department of Land and Natural Resources to contract or form a partnership with private parties to assist with the maintenance and management of sunscreen dispensers at all state beaches, as well as publicize that the mineral-based sunscreen in these dispensers is more protective of the coral reefs of the State. Appropriates funds for the installation, maintenance, management, and operation of non-chemical sunscreen dispensers on all state beaches.

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