

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COUNTY LABOR STANDARDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 46-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§46-1.5 General powers and limitation of the counties.**

4 Subject to general law, each county shall have the following  
5 powers and shall be subject to the following liabilities and  
6 limitations:

7 (1) Each county shall have the power to frame and adopt a  
8 charter for its own self-government that shall  
9 establish the county executive, administrative, and  
10 legislative structure and organization, including but  
11 not limited to the method of appointment or election  
12 of officials, their duties, responsibilities, and  
13 compensation, and the terms of their office;

14 (2) Each county shall have the power to provide for and  
15 regulate the marking and lighting of all buildings and  
16 other structures that may be obstructions or hazards  
17 to aerial navigation, so far as may be necessary or



1 proper for the protection and safeguarding of life,  
2 health, and property;

3 (3) Each county shall have the power to enforce all claims  
4 on behalf of the county and approve all lawful claims  
5 against the county, but shall be prohibited from  
6 entering into, granting, or making in any manner any  
7 contract, authorization, allowance payment, or  
8 liability contrary to the provisions of any county  
9 charter or general law;

10 (4) Each county shall have the power to make contracts and  
11 to do all things necessary and proper to carry into  
12 execution all powers vested in the county or any  
13 county officer;

14 (5) Each county shall have the power to:

15 (A) Maintain channels, whether natural or artificial,  
16 including their exits to the ocean, in suitable  
17 condition to carry off storm waters;

18 (B) Remove from the channels, and from the shores and  
19 beaches, any debris that is likely to create an  
20 unsanitary condition or become a public nuisance;  
21 provided that, to the extent any of the foregoing



work is a private responsibility, the responsibility may be enforced by the county in lieu of the work being done at public expense;

- (C) Construct, acquire by gift, purchase, or by the exercise of eminent domain, reconstruct, improve, better, extend, and maintain projects or undertakings for the control of and protection against floods and flood waters, including the power to drain and rehabilitate lands already flooded;
- (D) Enact zoning ordinances providing that lands deemed subject to seasonable, periodic, or occasional flooding shall not be used for residence or other purposes in a manner as to endanger the health or safety of the occupants thereof, as required by the Federal Flood Insurance Act of 1956 (chapter 1025, Public Law 101-6); and
- (E) Establish and charge user fees to create and maintain any stormwater management system or infrastructure; provided that no county shall



1 charge against or collect user fees from the  
2 department of transportation in excess of  
3 \$1,500,000 in the aggregate per year; provided  
4 further that no services shall be denied to the  
5 department of transportation by reason of  
6 nonpayment of the fees;

7 (6) Each county shall have the power to exercise the power  
8 of condemnation by eminent domain when it is in the  
9 public interest to do so;

10 (7) Each county shall have the power to exercise  
11 regulatory powers over business activity as are  
12 assigned to them by chapter 445 or other general law;

13 (8) Each county shall have the power to fix the fees and  
14 charges for all official services not otherwise  
15 provided for;

16 (9) Each county shall have the power to provide by  
17 ordinance assessments for the improvement or  
18 maintenance of districts within the county;

19 (10) Except as otherwise provided, no county shall have the  
20 power to give or loan credit to, or in aid of, any



1                   person or corporation, directly or indirectly, except  
2                   for a public purpose;

3                   (11) Where not within the jurisdiction of the public  
4                   utilities commission, each county shall have the power  
5                   to regulate by ordinance the operation of motor  
6                   vehicle common carriers transporting passengers within  
7                   the county and adopt and amend rules the county deems  
8                   necessary for the public convenience and necessity;

9                   (12) Each county shall have the power to enact and enforce  
10                   ordinances necessary to prevent or summarily remove  
11                   public nuisances and to compel the clearing or removal  
12                   of any public nuisance, refuse, and uncultivated  
13                   undergrowth from streets, sidewalks, public places,  
14                   and unoccupied lots. In connection with these powers,  
15                   each county may impose and enforce liens upon the  
16                   property for the cost to the county of removing and  
17                   completing the necessary work where the property  
18                   owners fail, after reasonable notice, to comply with  
19                   the ordinances. The authority provided by this  
20                   paragraph shall not be self-executing, but shall  
21                   become fully effective within a county only upon the



1                   enactment or adoption by the county of appropriate and  
2                   particular laws, ordinances, or rules defining "public  
3                   nuisances" with respect to each county's respective  
4                   circumstances. The counties shall provide the  
5                   property owner with the opportunity to contest the  
6                   summary action and to recover the owner's property;

7                   (13) Each county shall have the power to enact ordinances  
8                   deemed necessary to protect health, life, and  
9                   property, and to preserve the order and security of  
10                   the county and its inhabitants on any subject or  
11                   matter not inconsistent with, or tending to defeat,  
12                   the intent of any state statute where the statute does  
13                   not disclose an express or implied intent that the  
14                   statute shall be exclusive or uniform throughout the  
15                   State;

16                   (14) Each county shall have the power to:

17                   (A) Make and enforce within the limits of the county  
18                   all necessary ordinances covering all:

19                   (i) Local police matters;

20                   (ii) Matters of sanitation;

21                   (iii) Matters of inspection of buildings;



1 (iv) Matters of condemnation of unsafe  
2 structures, plumbing, sewers, dairies, milk,  
3 fish, and morgues; and  
4 (v) Matters of the collection and disposition of  
5 rubbish and garbage;

6 (B) Provide exemptions for homeless facilities and  
7 any other program for the homeless authorized by  
8 part XVII of chapter 346, for all matters under  
9 this paragraph;

10 (C) Appoint county physicians and sanitary and other  
11 inspectors as necessary to carry into effect  
12 ordinances made under this paragraph, who shall  
13 have the same power as given by law to agents of  
14 the department of health, subject only to  
15 limitations placed on them by the terms and  
16 conditions of their appointments; and  
17 (D) Fix a penalty for the violation of any ordinance,  
18 which penalty may be a misdemeanor, petty  
19 misdemeanor, or violation as defined by general  
20 law;



1 (15) Each county shall have the power to provide public  
2 pounds; to regulate the impounding of stray animals  
3 and fowl, and their disposition; and to provide for  
4 the appointment, powers, duties, and fees of animal  
5 control officers;

6 (16) Each county shall have the power to purchase and  
7 otherwise acquire, lease, and hold real and personal  
8 property within the defined boundaries of the county  
9 and to dispose of the real and personal property as  
10 the interests of the inhabitants of the county may  
11 require, except that:

12 (A) Any property held for school purposes may not be  
13 disposed of without the consent of the  
14 superintendent of education;

15 (B) No property bordering the ocean shall be sold or  
16 otherwise disposed of; and

17 (C) All proceeds from the sale of park lands shall be  
18 expended only for the acquisition of property for  
19 park or recreational purposes;

20 (17) Each county shall have the power to provide by charter  
21 for the prosecution of all offenses and to prosecute



1 for offenses against the laws of the State under the  
2 authority of the attorney general of the State;

3 (18) Each county shall have the power to make  
4 appropriations in amounts deemed appropriate from any  
5 moneys in the treasury, for the purpose of:

6 (A) Community promotion and public celebrations;  
7 (B) The entertainment of distinguished persons as may  
8 from time to time visit the county;  
9 (C) The entertainment of other distinguished persons,  
10 as well as [r] public officials when deemed to be  
11 in the best interest of the community; and  
12 (D) The rendering of civic tribute to individuals  
13 who, by virtue of their accomplishments and  
14 community service, merit civic commendations,  
15 recognition, or remembrance;

16 (19) Each county shall have the power to:

17 (A) Construct, purchase, take on lease, lease,  
18 sublease, or in any other manner acquire, manage,  
19 maintain, or dispose of buildings for county  
20 purposes, sewers, sewer systems, pumping  
21 stations, waterworks, including reservoirs,





1 (21) Unless otherwise provided by law, each county shall  
2 have the power to establish by ordinance the order of  
3 succession of county officials in the event of a  
4 military or civil disaster;

5 (22) Each county shall have the power to sue and be sued in  
6 its corporate name;

7 (23) Each county shall have the power to:  
8 (A) Establish and maintain waterworks and sewer  
9 works;  
10 (B) Implement a sewer monitoring program that  
11 includes the inspection of sewer laterals that  
12 connect to county sewers, when those laterals are  
13 located on public or private property, after  
14 providing a property owner not less than ten  
15 calendar days' written notice, to detect leaks  
16 from laterals, infiltration, and inflow, any  
17 other law to the contrary notwithstanding;

18 (C) Compel an owner of private property upon which is  
19 located any sewer lateral that connects to a  
20 county sewer to inspect that lateral for leaks.



infiltration, and inflow and to perform repairs as necessary;

(D) Collect rates for water supplied to consumers and  
for the use of sewers;

(E) Install water meters whenever deemed expedient; provided that owners of premises having vested water rights under existing laws appurtenant to the premises shall not be charged for the installation or use of the water meters on the premises;

(F) Take over from the State existing waterworks systems, including water rights, pipelines, and other appurtenances belonging thereto, and sewer systems, and to enlarge, develop, and improve the same; and

(G) For purposes of subparagraphs (B) and (C):

(i) "Infiltration" means groundwater, rainwater, and saltwater that enters the county sewer system through cracked, broken, or defective sewer laterals; and



(ii) "Inflow" means non-sewage entering the county sewer system via inappropriate or illegal connections;

(24) (A) Each county may impose civil fines, in addition to criminal penalties, for any violation of county ordinances or rules after reasonable notice and requests to correct or cease the violation have been made upon the violator. Any administratively imposed civil fine shall not be collected until after an opportunity for a hearing under chapter 91. Any appeal shall be filed within thirty days from the date of the final written decision. These proceedings shall not be a prerequisite for any civil fine or injunctive relief ordered by the circuit court;

(B) Each county by ordinance may provide for the addition of any unpaid civil fines, ordered by any court of competent jurisdiction, to any taxes, fees, or charges, with the exception of fees or charges for water for residential use and sewer charges, collected by the county. Each



1 county by ordinance may also provide for the  
2 addition of any unpaid administratively imposed  
3 civil fines, which remain due after all judicial  
4 review rights under section 91-14 are exhausted,  
5 to any taxes, fees, or charges, with the  
6 exception of water for residential use and sewer  
7 charges, collected by the county. The ordinance  
8 shall specify the administrative procedures for  
9 the addition of the unpaid civil fines to the  
10 eligible taxes, fees, or charges and may require  
11 hearings or other proceedings. After addition of  
12 the unpaid civil fines to the taxes, fees, or  
13 charges, the unpaid civil fines shall not become  
14 a part of any taxes, fees, or charges. The  
15 county by ordinance may condition the issuance or  
16 renewal of a license, approval, or permit for  
17 which a fee or charge is assessed, except for  
18 water for residential use and sewer charges, on  
19 payment of the unpaid civil fines. Upon  
20 recordation of a notice of unpaid civil fines in  
21 the bureau of conveyances, the amount of the



1 civil fines, including any increase in the amount  
2 of the fine which the county may assess, shall  
3 constitute a lien upon all real property or  
4 rights to real property belonging to any person  
5 liable for the unpaid civil fines. The lien in  
6 favor of the county shall be subordinate to any  
7 lien in favor of any person recorded or  
8 registered [prior to] before the recordation of  
9 the notice of unpaid civil fines and senior to  
10 any lien recorded or registered after the  
11 recordation of the notice. The lien shall  
12 continue until the unpaid civil fines are paid in  
13 full or until a certificate of release or partial  
14 release of the lien, prepared by the county at  
15 the owner's expense, is recorded. The notice of  
16 unpaid civil fines shall state the amount of the  
17 fine as of the date of the notice and maximum  
18 permissible daily increase of the fine. The  
19 county shall not be required to include a social  
20 security number, state general excise taxpayer  
21 identification number, or federal employer



1 identification number on the notice. Recordation  
2 of the notice in the bureau of conveyances shall  
3 be deemed, at [such] that time, for all purposes  
4 and without any further action, to procure a lien  
5 on land registered in land court under chapter  
6 501. After the unpaid civil fines are added to  
7 the taxes, fees, or charges as specified by  
8 county ordinance, the unpaid civil fines shall be  
9 deemed immediately due, owing, and delinquent and  
10 may be collected in any lawful manner. The  
11 procedure for collection of unpaid civil fines  
12 authorized in this paragraph shall be in addition  
13 to any other procedures for collection available  
14 to the State and county by law or rules of the  
15 courts;

16 (C) Each county may impose civil fines upon any  
17 person who places graffiti on any real or  
18 personal property owned, managed, or maintained  
19 by the county. The fine may be up to \$1,000 or  
20 may be equal to the actual cost of having the  
21 damaged property repaired or replaced. The



1 parent or guardian having custody of a minor who  
2 places graffiti on any real or personal property  
3 owned, managed, or maintained by the county shall  
4 be jointly and severally liable with the minor  
5 for any civil fines imposed hereunder. [Any  
6 such] The fine may be administratively imposed  
7 after an opportunity for a hearing under  
8 chapter 91, but [such] a proceeding shall not be  
9 a prerequisite for any civil fine ordered by any  
10 court. As used in this subparagraph, "graffiti"  
11 means any unauthorized drawing, inscription,  
12 figure, or mark of any type intentionally created  
13 by paint, ink, chalk, dye, or similar substances;

14 (D) At the completion of an appeal in which the  
15 county's enforcement action is affirmed and upon  
16 correction of the violation if requested by the  
17 violator, the case shall be reviewed by the  
18 county agency that imposed the civil fines to  
19 determine the appropriateness of the amount of  
20 the civil fines that accrued while the appeal  
21 proceedings were pending. In its review of the



- (i) The nature and egregiousness of the violation;
- (ii) The duration of the violation;
- (iii) The number of recurring and other similar violations;
- (iv) Any effort taken by the violator to correct the violation;
- (v) The degree of involvement in causing or continuing the violation;
- (vi) Reasons for any delay in the completion of the appeal; and
- (vii) Other extenuating circumstances.

The civil fine that is imposed by administrative order after this review is completed and the violation is corrected shall be subject to judicial review, notwithstanding any provisions for administrative review in county charters;

(E) After completion of a review of the amount of accrued civil fine by the county agency that





1 real property taxes, water and sewer development fees,  
2 rates collected for water supplied to consumers and  
3 for use of sewers, and any other county taxes,  
4 charges, or fees; provided that any county may enact  
5 ordinances to regulate and grant the exemptions  
6 granted by this paragraph;

7 (26) Any county may establish a captive insurance company  
8 pursuant to article 19, chapter 431; [and]

9 (27) Each county shall have the power to enact and enforce  
10 ordinances regulating towing operations[–]; and

11 (28) Each county shall have the power to:

12 (A) Require a contractor, as defined in section  
13 444-1, to disclose information regarding its  
14 employees' wages, benefits, hours, and employment  
15 status; and

16 (B) Deny, revoke, or suspend a building permit  
17 application if a contractor, as defined in  
18 section 444-1, is found to be in violation of  
19 laws as determined by the department of labor and  
20 industrial relations, United States Department of



1                   Labor, or judicial order relating to wages,  
2                   benefits, hours, and employment status."

3               SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4               and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

6

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 20 2026



# H.B. NO. 1660

**Report Title:**

Contractors; Employees; Counties; Wages; Benefits; Hours; Employment Status; Disclosure

**Description:**

Authorizes the counties to require contractors to disclose information regarding their employees' wages, benefits, hours, and employment status and deny, revoke, or suspend a building permit application for violating laws relating to wages, benefits, hours, and employment status, under certain conditions.

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

