

JAN 23 2026

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LEI.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the lei is an  
2 important cultural, social, and economic expression of Hawaii  
3 and Native Hawaiian traditions. Lei made using a wide variety  
4 of plant materials, flowers, seeds, shells, and other natural or  
5 cultural components, are worn and shared in ceremonies,  
6 celebrations, and daily life throughout the State.

7 The legislature further finds that the growing  
8 commercialization of lei and lei materials has led to increased  
9 use of imported plant materials and manufactured components that  
10 are marketed using Hawaiian language, imagery, and place names,  
11 which may mislead consumers and undermine local growers, lei  
12 makers, and cultural practitioners.

13 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

14 (1) Require and establish benchmarks for each state  
15 executive agency to ensure that a certain percentage  
16 of lei purchased by that executive agency consists of  
17 lei made entirely of natural objects and plant



1                   materials grown, harvested, and assembled in the  
2                   State; and

3               (2) Establish labeling requirements for lei and lei  
4                   materials.

5               SECTION 2. Chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6               amended by adding a new section to part IV to be appropriately  
7               designated and to read as follows:

8               "S103D-    Lei; material grown, harvested, or assembled  
9               outside of the State; purchasing requirements. (a) Each state  
10               executive agency shall ensure that the following percentage of  
11               lei purchased is made entirely of natural objects and plant  
12               materials, including but not limited to leaves, ferns, flowers,  
13               vines, and seeds, that are grown, harvested, and assembled in  
14               the State:

15               (1) By December 31, 2032, thirty per cent of lei purchased  
16               shall be made entirely of natural objects and plant  
17               materials grown, harvested, and assembled in the  
18               State;

19               (2) By December 31, 2037, forty per cent of lei purchased  
20               shall be made entirely of natural objects and plant



1                   materials grown, harvested, and assembled in the  
2                   State; and

3                   (3) By December 31, 2042, fifty per cent of lei purchased  
4                   shall be made entirely of natural objects and plant  
5                   materials grown, harvested, and assembled in the  
6                   State.

7                   (b) Beginning January 1, 2043, no state executive agency  
8                   shall purchase any lei containing plant material grown and  
9                   harvested outside of the State.

10                   (c) This section shall apply to any purchase of lei made  
11                   by a state executive agency, including small purchases made  
12                   under section 103D-305.

13                   (d) For the purposes of this section, "state executive  
14                   agency" means any department, office, board, or commission of  
15                   the state, including any administratively attached bodies."

16                   SECTION 3. Chapter 486, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17                   amended by adding a new section to part V to be appropriately  
18                   designated and to read as follows:

19                   "§486- Lei; lei materials; labeling requirements;  
20                   documentation; penalties. (a) No person shall keep, offer,  
21                   display or expose for sale, or solicit for the sale of any lei



1     or lei materials that are labeled with the term "Hawaii Grown",  
2     or any variation of that term, unless at least ninety per cent  
3     of the lei or lei materials were cultivated or harvested within  
4     the State.

5           (b) No person shall keep, offer, display or expose for  
6     sale, or solicit for the sale of, any lei that is labeled with  
7     the term "Hawaii Made" unless the lei was crafted or assembled  
8     within the State.

9           (c) A person who keeps, offers, displays or exposes for  
10    sale, or solicits for the sale of any lei or lei materials  
11   labeled with the terms "Hawaii Grown" or "Hawaii Made", or any  
12   variation of these terms, shall provide documentation  
13   demonstrating compliance with the labeling requirements of this  
14   section to the administrator upon request.

15          (d) A person or the department may bring an action for  
16    injunctive relief against a person who is not in compliance with  
17   the requirements of this section.

18          (e) Any person who violates this section shall be subject  
19   to penalties imposed pursuant to section 486-32.

20          (f) For the purposes of this section, "lei" means a  
21   garland, wreath, or ornament traditionally worn or presented,



1       made from plant materials, including but not limited to leaves,  
2       ferns, flowers, vines, and seeds; natural objects, including  
3       shells; or manufactured components."

4           SECTION 4. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
5       matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
6       begun before its effective date.

7           SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

8           SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

9

INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 2781

**Report Title:**

Procurement; Lei; Benchmarks; Lei Materials; Labeling Requirements; Penalties

**Description:**

Requires and establishes benchmarks for each state executive agency to ensure that a certain percentage of lei purchased by that executive agency consists of lei made entirely of natural objects and plant materials grown, harvested, and assembled in the State. Establishes labeling requirements for lei and lei materials.

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