

JAN 23 2026

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE KALAUPAPA SETTLEMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a plan for the  
2 transfer of powers and duties regarding the Kalaupapa Settlement  
3 is urgently needed in preparation for the passing of the few  
4 resident patients remaining there. Under existing law, the  
5 county of Kalawao is under the jurisdiction of the department of  
6 health, however, other state agencies, such as the department of  
7 land and natural resources and the department of Hawaiian home  
8 lands, have land ownership interest within Kalawao county.

9 The legislature further finds that pursuant to S.C.R. No.  
10 215, S.D. 1 (1989), the department of health submitted to the  
11 legislature in 1991 a strategic plan for transition at Kalaupapa  
12 Settlement. This plan has not been revised since, nor did it  
13 include input from other governmental agencies on their roles or  
14 responsibilities in the transition plan. The lack of an updated  
15 and comprehensive plan casts uncertainty on the future of  
16 Kalaupapa.



1        Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the  
2        department of health, in consultation with the department of  
3        land and natural resources and department of Hawaiian home  
4        lands, to submit a report on the plan for the transfer of powers  
5        and duties of Kalaupapa Settlement.

6        SECTION 2. Chapter 326, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7        amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
8        and to read as follows:

9        "§326- Transition planning. (a) The department of  
10        health, in consultation with the department of land and natural  
11        resources and the department of Hawaiian home lands, shall  
12        submit to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
13        convening of the Regular Session of 2027 a report on the plan  
14        for the permanent transfer of the powers and duties relating to  
15        the Kalaupapa Settlement to the department of land and natural  
16        resources and the department of Hawaiian home lands, which shall  
17        include:

18        (1) Specification of the department of health's,  
19        department of land and natural resources', and the  
20        department of Hawaiian home lands' interests in and



1                   responsibility over Kalawao county or the Kalaupapa  
2                   Settlement;  
3                   (2) Details on the plans and necessary procedures for the  
4                   permanent transfer of powers and duties;  
5                   (3) The pre- and post-transfer roles and responsibilities  
6                   of the department of health, department of land and  
7                   natural resources, and the department of Hawaiian home  
8                   lands regarding the transfer of Kalaupapa Settlement,  
9                   including remediation, maintenance, or other  
10                   activities;  
11                   (4) Budget proposals for the transfer of Kalaupapa  
12                   Settlement, including any responsibilities outlined in  
13                   paragraph (3); and  
14                   (5) A proposed statutory deadline for the transfer after  
15                   the passing of the last resident patient of Kalaupapa  
16                   Settlement."

17                   SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

18                   SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lyn Delite



S.B. NO. 2799

**Report Title:**

DOH; DLNR; DHHL; Kalaupapa Settlement; Transfer; Report

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Health, in consultation with the Department of Land and Natural Resources and Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, to submit a report on the plan for the transfer of powers and duties of Kalaupapa Settlement prior to the Regular Session of 2027.

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

