

JAN 30 2026

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE WAIKIKI WAR MEMORIAL COMPLEX.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Waikiki war  
2 memorial natatorium was constructed in 1927 to serve as a  
3 "living memorial" to the approximately ten thousand residents of  
4 Hawaii who served in the first world war. As a site listed on  
5 the national register of historic places, the natatorium is a  
6 landmark of cultural and historical significance.

7       The legislature further finds that, since its closure to  
8 the public in 1979 due to safety concerns, the natatorium has  
9 undergone significant structural degradation. However, the  
10 legacy of those who served, and the community's desire to  
11 maintain a space dedicated to the dual themes of military  
12 sacrifice and the pursuit of global peace, remains steadfast.

13       Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to preserve the  
14 history of Hawaii's participation in the first world war and  
15 promote understanding of war and peace by providing funding to  
16 assist with the rehabilitation of the Waikiki war memorial



1 complex, including the Waikiki war memorial natatorium, and to  
2 develop a war memorial center.

3 SECTION 2. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
4 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$30,000,000 or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
6 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2026-2027  
7 for the purpose of assisting War Memorials of Hawaii Inc., a  
8 Hawaii nonprofit corporation, with:

9 (1) The acquisition of land;

10 (2) The rehabilitation of the Waikiki war memorial  
11 natatorium and Waikiki war memorial complex; and

12 (3) The planning, design, and construction of a war  
13 memorial center within the Waikiki war memorial  
14 complex on parcels identified by tax map key numbers

15 (1) 3-1-31-3, -9, and -10;

16 provided that the following conditions are met:

17 (A) The Hawaii community development authority shall  
18 assist War Memorials of Hawaii Inc., in:

19 (i) Developing a conceptual master plan;



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(ii) Negotiating a master lease with the board of land and natural resources and the city and county of Honolulu; and

(iii) Financing and developing the war memorial center;

(B) War Memorials of Hawaii Inc., shall solicit the participation of business, community, government, and military organizations in the rehabilitation of the Waikiki war memorial natatorium and Waikiki war memorial complex and the planning, design, financing, and construction of the war memorial center; and

(C) The Waikiki war memorial natatorium, Waikiki war memorial complex, and war memorial center shall be designed for use by business, community, government, and military organizations and the general public to foster a better understanding of wars and peace.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii community development authority for the purposes of this Act.

1       SECTION 3. The appropriation made for the capital  
2 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at  
3 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is  
4 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation  
5 unencumbered as of June 30, 2028, shall lapse as of that date.

6       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 3291

**Report Title:**

HCDA; Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium; Waikiki War Memorial Complex; War Memorial Center; General Obligation Bonds (GO Bonds); CIP

**Description:**

Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds for capital improvement projects to rehabilitate the Waikiki War Memorial Natatorium and develop a Waikiki war memorial complex and War memorial center.

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

