

JAN 30 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MAUNA KEA.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to:

2 (1) Extend for a period of ten years the master lease of
3 Mauna Kea lands that is currently set to expire on
4 December 31, 2033; and

5 (2) Require that all subleases of Mauna Kea lands to
6 astronomical observatories be extended for a period of
7 ten years.

8 SECTION 2. (a) Notwithstanding any other law to the
9 contrary:

10 (1) The lease between the board of land and natural
11 resources and the university of Hawaii that was
12 entered into on June 21, 1968, as General
13 Lease S-4191, as amended on September 21, 1999, as
14 General Lease S-5529, and that is transferred to the
15 Mauna Kea stewardship and oversight authority pursuant
16 to part II of Act 255, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022;
17 and



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1 (2) Any other lease or easement between the board of land
2 and natural resources and the university of Hawaii
3 pertaining to Mauna Kea lands that is currently in
4 effect, expires on December 31, 2033, and is
5 transferred to the Mauna Kea stewardship and oversight
6 authority pursuant to part II of Act 255, Session Laws
7 of Hawaii 2022,
8 shall be extended, by operation of law, for a period of ten
9 years, to expire on December 31, 2043; provided that nothing in
10 this subsection shall be construed to amend, or authorize the
11 amendment of, any other term or provision within the respective
12 lease or easement except for the date upon which the lease or
13 easement expires; provided further that nothing in this
14 subsection shall be construed to affect the transfer of powers,
15 functions, and duties from the university of Hawaii to the Mauna
16 Kea stewardship and oversight authority pursuant to part II of
17 Act 255, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, or the Mauna Kea
18 stewardship and oversight authority's power to manage Mauna Kea
19 lands after the end of the transition period pursuant to
20 section 195H-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or any other law.



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(b) Notwithstanding section 195H-6(f), Hawaii Revised Statutes, or any other law to the contrary, and subject to the agreement of the respective astronomical observatory, all subleases of Mauna Kea lands to astronomical observatories shall be extended for a period of ten years, to expire on December 31, 2043; provided that nothing in this subsection shall be construed to amend, or authorize the amendment of, any other term or provision within a respective sublease except for the date upon which the sublease expires.

(c) As used in this section:

"Astronomical observatory" means any person or entity that leases any portion of Mauna Kea lands for the purpose of operating a telescope observatory or for other astronomical research purposes.

"Mauna Kea lands" has the same meaning as in section 195H-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

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

INTRODUCED BY:

David M. R. [Signature]



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Report Title:

Board of Land and Natural Resources; Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority; University of Hawaii; Mauna Kea Lands; Astronomical Observatories; Lease; Subleases; Extension

Description:

Extends for 10 years the master lease of Mauna Kea lands that is set to expire on December 31, 2033. Requires that subleases of Mauna Kea lands to astronomical observatories be extended for 10 years.

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