

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE GREEN FEE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's natural  
2 and cultural resources, including its beaches, reefs, forests,  
3 streams, unique ecosystems, and cultural landscapes, form the  
4 foundation of the State's identity, economy, and overall well-  
5 being. An increasing volume of tourism places significant  
6 pressure on the very resources that sustain the people and  
7 environment of the islands. In response, the State established  
8 a "green fee", an increase in the transient accommodations tax  
9 and a new imposition of taxes on cruise fares, to mitigate the  
10 impacts of tourism and climate change and to support  
11 environmental protection, ecosystem restoration, natural  
12 resource management, and destination management throughout the  
13 State, through the enactment of Act 96, Session Laws of Hawaii  
14 2025.

15           The legislature further finds that the green fee represents  
16 a transformative opportunity to ensure that those who enjoy the  
17 State's natural resources also contribute to their care.



1 Revenues generated by the fee are intended to support projects  
2 such as invasive species removal, coral reef restoration, beach  
3 nourishment, cultural site protection, watershed management,  
4 enhancements to visitor experience, and resilience against  
5 climate change impacts. To maximize the effectiveness of these  
6 funds and maintain public confidence in their use, transparency,  
7 oversight, and accountability are essential.

8 The legislature also finds that multiple state agencies  
9 will receive green-fee-supported appropriations for projects  
10 across the islands. These agencies include but are not limited  
11 to those overseeing land and natural resources, state parks,  
12 transportation, agriculture, climate resilience, and wastewater  
13 and stormwater infrastructure. While each agency plays a  
14 critical role in stewarding the State's environment, the public  
15 currently lacks a comprehensive, centralized, and easily  
16 accessible source of information about how green fee revenues  
17 are allocated, obligated, and expended.

18 The legislature additionally finds that the State's public  
19 trust responsibilities, as articulated in the Hawaii State  
20 Constitution, impose an affirmative duty upon the State to  
21 protect and maintain natural resources for present and future



1 generations. Ensuring transparent and responsible use of the  
2 green fee aligns with this duty by allowing residents, visitors,  
3 policymakers, and stakeholders to track these environmental  
4 investments, monitor project progress, and evaluate whether  
5 expenditures are achieving their intended environmental  
6 outcomes.

7 Furthermore, the legislature finds that establishing a  
8 statewide green fee resiliency impact dashboard would support  
9 informed decision-making, promote fiscal responsibility, enhance  
10 collaboration across agencies, enable real-time public insight  
11 into project performance, and strengthen trust in the  
12 stewardship of the State's natural and cultural resources. The  
13 dashboard would consolidate data, standardize reporting, and  
14 provide clear narratives and metrics illustrating how revenues  
15 are used, where projects are located, and what environmental  
16 benefits are being realized.

17 The legislature concludes that immediate action is  
18 necessary to establish a publicly accessible, regularly updated  
19 transparency platform that reflects the State's commitment to  
20 accountability, responsible resource management, and the long-  
21 term health of the State's environment.





1 "Green fee" and "green fee revenues" means the revenue  
2 collected pursuant to Act 96, Session Laws of Hawaii 2025, for  
3 the purposes of environmental protection, natural resource  
4 restoration, climate adaptation, and other related uses as  
5 provided by law.

6 "Program" means the green fee transparency and  
7 accountability program established by section -2.

8 **§ -2 Green fee transparency and accountability program;**  
9 **dashboard; establishment.** (a) There is established within the  
10 commission the green fee transparency and accountability  
11 program. The program shall be administered by a green fee  
12 transparency and accountability coordinator, who shall be  
13 appointed by the commission without regard to chapter 76 and  
14 placed within the office of the chairperson of the board of land  
15 and natural resources.

16 (b) The program shall:

17 (1) Develop, implement, and maintain an online, public-  
18 facing, interactive green fee resiliency impact  
19 dashboard that provides clear, timely, and  
20 standardized information on:



- 1 (A) Annual and cumulative green fee revenues
- 2 collected;
- 3 (B) Allocations and appropriations by project,
- 4 program, and agency;
- 5 (C) Expenditures and obligations, including project-
- 6 level spending;
- 7 (D) Project descriptions, objectives, geographic
- 8 locations, timelines, and performance indicators;
- 9 and
- 10 (E) Environmental, economic, cultural, tourism, or
- 11 climate-resilience outcomes associated with
- 12 funded activities;
- 13 (2) Establish uniform reporting requirements and data-
- 14 submission standards for all agencies receiving or
- 15 expending green fee revenues;
- 16 (3) Coordinate with agencies to ensure accurate, complete,
- 17 and timely transmission of expenditure information,
- 18 project status updates, and performance metrics,
- 19 including the department of budget and finance for the
- 20 tracking of the finances for each project and agency
- 21 receiving or expending green fee revenues; and



1 (4) Provide an annual public summary of project categories  
2 funded by green fee revenues, including reporting on  
3 effectiveness, gaps, and opportunities for  
4 improvement.

5 § -3 **Cooperation by state and county agencies.** Any  
6 agency that receives, administers, or expends green fee revenues  
7 shall provide any information, data, reports, or documentation  
8 requested by the commission or the program within thirty  
9 calendar days of the request; provided that the commission may  
10 grant extensions, as needed.

11 § -4 **Annual report.** No later than December 1 of each  
12 year beginning in 2026, the commission shall submit to the  
13 legislature, governor, and mayor of each county a report  
14 summarizing:

- 15 (1) The commission's activities under this chapter;  
16 (2) Updates and enhancements to the dashboard;  
17 (3) In consultation with the department of budget and  
18 finance, green fee revenue allocations and  
19 expenditures during the prior fiscal year; and  
20 (4) Outcomes and performance measures for projects funded  
21 with green fee revenues."



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for  
4 the development, implementation, and maintenance of the green  
5 fee resiliency impact dashboard established by section 2 of this  
6 Act.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
8 climate change mitigation and adaptation commission for the  
9 purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 to be  
13 deposited into the special land and development fund established  
14 pursuant to section 171-19 to fund green fee projects; provided  
15 that the amounts deposited shall not exceed the total amount of  
16 green fee revenues collected and realized by the general fund  
17 during the fiscal year after making the distributions prescribed  
18 in section 237D-6.5(b). The appropriations authorized under this  
19 section shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which  
20 the appropriations were made. All unexpended and unencumbered  
21 balances of the appropriations made in this section as of the



1 close of business on June 30, 2028, shall lapse to the general  
2 fund.

3 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the special land  
4 and development fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof  
5 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 to support the  
6 following programs.

7	ProgID	Program Description	FY27 \$	Green Fee Category
8				
9				
10	AGR141	Irrigation Public Safety		Climate/Hazard
11		Power Shutoff Preparedness		Resilience
12				
13	AGR192	Irrigation Public Safety		Climate/Hazard
14		and Preparedness		Resilience
15				
16	AGR192	Hawaii Mesonet		Climate/Hazard
17				Resilience
18				
19	AGS881	Chinatown Community Cultural		Sustainable
20		Enhancement Project		Tourism
21				
22	BED100	Culinary Destination Management		Sustainable
23				Tourism
24				
25	BED101	East West Center Environment		Environmental
26		and Climate Coordination		Stewardship
27				
28	BED101	International Relations and		Sustainable
29		and Programming		Tourism
30				
31	BED115	Sports and Signature		Sustainable
32		Events Study		Tourism
33				
34	BED144	Protection of Mantokuji Bay		Sustainable
35				Tourism



1			
2	BED144	Solid Waste Management	Environmental
3			Stewardship
4			
5	BED170	Green Energy Study	Climate/Hazard
6			Resilience
7			
8	BED170	Water Systems Safety and	Environmental
9		Preparedness	Stewardship
10			
11	BED170	Hawaii-Made Products to	Sustainable
12		Enhance Visitor Experience	Tourism
13			
14	DEF118	Hanalei Flood Notification	Climate/Hazard
15			Resilience
16			
17	DEF118	Warehousing/Pre-coverty Pods	Climate/Hazard
18			Resilience
19			
20	DEF118	Home Retrofit Program	Climate/Hazard
21		(Hurricane)	Resilience
22			
23	DEF118	Laupahoehoe	Climate/Hazard
24			Resilience
25			
26	DEF118	Facilities Assessment for	Climate/Hazard
27		Hurricane Refuge Areas	Resilience
28			
29	EDN100	Facilities Enhancement for	Climate/Hazard
30		Disaster Preparedness	Resilience
31			
32	EDN400	Grounds and Facilities Clean Up	Environmental
33			Stewardship
34			
35	EDN400	Grounds and Facilities Clean Up	Environmental
36			Stewardship
37			
38	EDN400	Brush/Vegetation Contracts	Climate/Hazard
39			Resilience
40			



1	HTH212	Sustainability and hazard	Climate/Hazard
2		mitigation Kona and Kohala	Resilience
3		Hospital	
4			
5	HTH840	Wastewater reclamation facility	Climate/Hazard
6			Resilience
7			
8	HTH907	Health Center Resiliency	Climate/Hazard
9			Resilience
10			
11	LNR101	Beach restoration	Sustainable
12			Tourism
13			
14	LNR101	Conservation of Agriculture	Environmental
15		and Soil Health	Stewardship
16			
17	LNR101	Seed Orchards	Environmental
18			Stewardship
19			
20	LNR101	Ala Wai Canal flood control	Climate/Hazard
21		planning	Resilience
22			
23	LNR101	Monitoring and Evaluation for	Environmental
24		the Green Fee project portfolio	Stewardship
25			
26	LNR101	Beach Restoration - West Maui	Sustainable
27			Tourism
28			
29	LNR101	Kaanapali Beach Restoration	Sustainable
30			Tourism
31			
32	LNR172	Hale Piula Watertank Replacement	Climate/Hazard
33		and Clean Up, Hawaii	Resilience
34			
35	LNR172	Strengthening Public Safety	Climate/Hazard
36		Measures Throughout Hawai'i's	Resilience
37		State Forest Reserves	
38			
39	LNR401	Kauai Coral Restoration Program	Climate/Hazard
40			Resilience
41			



1	LNR401	Pilot Cesspool Conversions	Climate/Hazard
2		in Coral Hotspots	Resilience
3			
4	LNR401	Na Manu Elele Makai	Environmental
5		(Environmental Ambassador program)	Stewardship
6			
7	LNR401	Regulatory and Interpretive	Sustainable
8		Signage Plan and Implementation	Tourism
9			
10	LNR402	West Maui Climate Modeling	Climate/Hazard
11			Resilience
12			
13	LNR402	Endangered Forest Bird Mosquito	Environmental
14		Abatement	Stewardship
15			
16	LNR404	Funding to Update of the	Environmental
17		Hawai'i Drought Plan	Stewardship
18			
19	LNR404	Funding to update the Hawai'i	Environmental
20		Water Conservation Plan	Stewardship
21			
22	LNR404	Water System Infrastructure	Climate/Hazard
23		Inventory and Resilience Study	Resilience
24			
25	LNR405	Protection of Natural Resources	Environmental
26			Stewardship
27			
28	LNR407	Urban Extreme Heat Temperature	Climate/Hazard
29		Reduction Projects	Resilience
30			
31	LNR407	Climate Resilience Crews	Climate/Hazard
32			Resilience
33			
34	LNR407	Pia Natural Area Reserve Native	Environmental
35		Forest Restoration Project	Stewardship
36			
37	LNR407	Conservation Corps for community	Environmental
38		partnership and workforce capacity	Stewardship
39		development for green jobs and	
40		climate resiliency	
41			



1	LNR407	Plant Extinction Prevention Program	Environmental
2			Stewardship
3			
4	LNR407	Endangered Plant Seed Banking	Environmental
5			Stewardship
6			
7	LNR407	Maui Nui Endangered Species	Environmental
8		Predator Control	Stewardship
9			
10	LNR407	Expanding Invasive Plant Control	Environmental
11		in Moloka'i Core Watershed Areas	Stewardship
12			
13	LNR407	Kuia and Honopu Trail Improvement	Sustainable
14			Tourism
15			
16	LNR801	Improvement to coastal infrastructure	Sustainable
17			Tourism
18			
19	LNR801	Day-use mooring buoy maintenance	Sustainable
20			Tourism
21			
22	LNR804	Na Manu 'Elele Statewide Land	Sustainable
23		Steward Program	Tourism
24			
25	LNR806	Park improvements	Sustainable
26			Tourism
27			
28	LNR806	State Parks Statewide Fire	Climate/Hazard
29		Management Plan	Resilience
30			
31	LNR810	Upgrade and Modernize the	Climate/Hazard
32		Hawai'i Flood Hazard Assessment	Resilience
33		Tool (FHAT), a web-based GIS flood	
34		map viewer for the State of Hawaii	
35			
36	TRN511	Transportation Congestion	Sustainable
37		Relief Study	Tourism
38			
39	TRN995	Kalaeloa Reef Laboratory Project	Climate/Hazard
40			Resilience
41			



1	UOH100	Aloha Safe Homes - Education/Outreach	Climate/Hazard
2			Resilience
3			
4	UOH100	Sea Level Rise Impacts on	Climate/Hazard
5		Buried Infrastructure	Resilience
6			
7	UOH100	Protection of Natural Resources	Environmental
8			Stewardship
9			
10	UOH881	Destination Management	Sustainable
11			Tourism
12			

13           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the designated  
14 agencies for the purposes of this Act.

15           SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

HCCMAC; Green Fee Transparency and Accountability Program; Green Fee Resiliency Impact Dashboard; Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes the Green Fee Transparency and Accountability Program and Green Fee Resiliency Impact Dashboard, to be administered by the Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (SD1)

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

