
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE RECOGNITION OF A HAWAIIAN SENSE OF PLACE.

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Hawaiian Sense of Place Recognition Act".

SECTION 2. Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"PART . HAWAIIAN SENSE OF PLACE RECOGNITION

§226- Definitions. As used in this part:

"Hawaiian sense of place" means the cultural, spiritual, environmental, and social relationships that Native Hawaiians and residents of Hawaii maintain with land, water, and natural and built environments. This concept includes but is not limited to the following elements:

- (1) Connection to 'aina. Recognition of land as a living entity that sustains and nurtures the community, embodying ancestral knowledge, history, and genealogy;
- (2) Cultural practices. Integration and perpetuation of traditional practices, including hula, oli (chant),



festivals, and other cultural expressions that
reinforce relationships between people and place;

(3) Spiritual significance. Acknowledgment of sacred
sites, traditional cultural properties, and places of
historical and mythological importance, contributing
to individual and community identity;

(4) Community and family relationships. Recognition of
the role of 'ohana, community networks, and
intergenerational ties in shaping and sustaining
place-based identity; and

(5) Environmental stewardship. Commitment to
sustainability, biodiversity protection, and
traditional Hawaiian environmental practices that
promote long-term ecological balance.

§226- Promotion and education. The office shall
develop and implement educational and outreach programs to
promote understanding and appreciation of the Hawaiian sense of
place among residents, visitors, and public employees. These
programs shall include but not be limited to:

(1) The cultural significance of 'aina and place-based
identity;



(2) Traditional Hawaiian environmental and land

stewardship practices; and

(3) The historical, cultural, and spiritual narratives

associated with specific places throughout the State.

§226- Land management, planning, and state

construction. (a) In the planning, management, and development of land, state agencies shall incorporate the principles of the Hawaiian sense of place.

(b) All new construction, redevelopment, or major capital improvement projects on state-owned lands shall be designed and developed in alignment with the Hawaiian sense of place, including the consideration of:

(1) Architectural and landscape design that reflects Hawaiian values, cultural context, and environmental conditions;

(2) Integration of culturally and historically significant sites and features;

(3) Sustainable design practices consistent with traditional Hawaiian environmental stewardship; and



1 (4) Meaningful engagement with Native Hawaiian
2 practitioners, cultural experts, and affected
3 communities during planning and design phases.

4 (c) State agencies shall ensure that community input and
5 cultural consultation are meaningfully incorporated to uphold
6 traditions and practices reflective of the Hawaiian sense of
7 place."

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

OPSD; Hawaii State Planning Act; Hawaiian Sense of Place
Recognition Act

Description:

Establishes the Hawaiian Sense of Place Recognition Act.
Requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to
develop educational and outreach programs to promote
understanding of the Hawaiian sense of place among residents,
visitors, and public employees. Requires state agencies to
incorporate Hawaiian sense of place principles into land
planning, management, and state construction projects.
Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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