

ACT 15

S.B. NO. 363

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Functions of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 26-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

**“§26-15 Department of land and natural resources.** The department of land and natural resources shall be headed by an executive board to be known as the board of land and natural resources.

The board shall consist of six members, one from each land district and two at large. The appointment, tenure, and removal of the members and the filling of vacancies on the board shall be as provided in section 26-34. The governor shall appoint the [chairman] chairperson of the board from among the members thereof.

The board may delegate to the [chairman] chairperson such duties, powers, and authority, or so much thereof, as may be lawful or proper for the performance of the functions vested in the board.

The [chairman] chairperson of the board shall serve in a full-time capacity. [He] The chairperson shall, in [such] that capacity, perform [such] those duties, and exercise [such] those powers and authority, or so much thereof, as may be delegated [to him] by the board.

The department shall manage and administer the public lands of the State and the water resources and minerals thereon, including the soil conservation function[; shall manage and administer the forest, fish, and game resources of the State; and manage the forest reserve and state parks, including historic<sup>1</sup> sites.], the

forests and forest reserves, aquatic life and wildlife resources, aquaculture programs, and state parks, including historic sites.

The functions and authority heretofore exercised by the commissioner and board of public lands (including the hydrography division and the bureau of conveyances), the Hawaii water authority, the commission on ground water resources, the Hawaii land development authority, the soil conservation committee, and the commission on historical sites and the function of managing the state parks and the function of promoting the conservation, development and utilization of forests, including the regulatory powers over the forest reserve, [fish and game] aquatic life and wild life resources of the State heretofore exercised by the board of commissioners of agriculture and forestry as heretofore constituted are transferred to the department of land and natural resources established by this chapter.”

SECTION 2. Section 171-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

“**§171-3 Department of land and natural resources.** The department of land and natural resources shall be headed by an executive board to be known as the board of land and natural resources. The department shall manage, administer, and exercise control over public lands, the water resources, and minerals and all other interests therein and exercise such powers of disposition thereof as may be authorized by law. The department shall also manage and administer the state parks, historic<sup>1</sup> sites, forests, forest reserves, [fisheries,] aquatic life and aquaculture programs, aquatic life sanctuaries, public fishing areas, wildlife, wildlife sanctuaries, game management areas, public hunting areas, natural area reserves, and other functions assigned<sup>2</sup> by law.”

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.

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

(Approved April 30, 1983.)

**Notes**

1. So in original.
2. Prior to amendment “to it” appeared here.