

A Bill for an Act Relating to Tourism.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State of Hawaii has experienced and continues to experience growth in tourism. Moreover, accompanying this continuing growth of tourism is a parallel increase of the State's resident population. Projections of both visitor and resident populations into the twenty-first century have alerted the State to examine this anticipated growth in terms of the State's carrying capacity. In particular, the legislature recognizes the growing community concerns over the extensive and intensive use of environmental resources of the State.

The legislature authorized the initiation of a pilot carrying capacity study in 1989 to develop a general methodology and to conduct a limited site-specific study to test this methodology. The pilot study has been completed for the Ewa-Central Oahu area on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. The pilot study's findings indicate that projected increases in de facto population, which includes visitors and residents, will require extensive infrastructural system improvements to meet minimal design standards for future water service, wastewater disposal, and highway and public transit service requirements. Further, the pilot study indicates that projected de facto population growth and its attendant service requirements will result in increasingly competitive demand for available natural resources, especially water.

The legislature notes that the pilot study report found that a carrying capacity type study is an appropriate planning tool to study the capability of regions within the State to absorb the projected population. The report also noted that the various regions of the State are not uniform environmental settings. These different environmental settings require use of a methodology that recognizes specific geographic and institutional settings.

The legislature finds that the pilot study provides an adequate basis for conducting regional or islandwide studies within the counties of the State. Further, the legislature finds that it is beneficial to the State of Hawaii to continue the carrying capacity study by applying the general methodology developed in the pilot study, as well as introducing study elements that may consider relationships to community well-being.

The purpose of this Act is to initiate two-year regional or islandwide carrying capacity studies within the several counties of the State in light of projected increases in both resident and visitor populations.

SECTION 2. In accordance with Section 9 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 1990 to 1991 to be exceeded by \$200,000, or 0.0078 per cent. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public interest and to meet the need provided for by this Act.

SECTION 3. Section 225M-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b) The office of state planning shall gather, analyze, and provide information to the governor to assist in the overall analysis and formulation of

state policies and strategies to provide central direction and cohesion in the allocation of resources and effectuation of state activities and programs, and effectively address current or emerging issues and opportunities. More specifically, the office shall engage in the following activities:

- (1) Comprehensive planning and program coordination. Formulating and articulating comprehensive statewide goals, objectives, policies, and priorities, and coordinating their implementation through the statewide planning system established in part II of chapter 226[.];
- (2) Strategic planning. Identifying and analyzing significant issues, problems, and opportunities confronting the State, and formulating strategies and alternative courses of action in response to identified problems and opportunities by:
  - (A) Providing in-depth policy research, analysis, and recommendations on existing or potential areas of critical state concern;
  - (B) Examining and evaluating the effectiveness of state programs in implementing state policies and priorities;
  - (C) Monitoring through surveys, environmental scanning, and other techniques -- current social, economic, and physical conditions and trends; and
  - (D) Developing, in collaboration with affected public or private agencies and organizations, implementation plans and schedules and, where appropriate, assisting in the mobilization of resources to meet identified needs[.];
- (3) Population planning. Planning for the management of the State's population size, rate of growth, and distribution through research, coordination, and technical assistance to state and county agencies[.];
- (4) Intergovernmental coordination and cooperation. Facilitating coordinated and cooperative planning and policy development and implementation activities among state agencies, and between the state, county, and federal governments, by:
  - (A) Reviewing, assessing, and coordinating, as necessary, major plans, programs, projects, and regulatory activities existing or proposed by state and county agencies; and
  - (B) Formulating mechanisms to simplify, streamline, or coordinate interagency development and regulatory processes[.];
- (5) Collection and dissemination of information. Collecting, analyzing, maintaining, and disseminating data and information to further effective state planning, policy analysis and development, and delivery of government services by:
  - (A) Assembling, organizing, evaluating, and classifying existing data and performing necessary basic research in order to provide a common data base for governmental planning; and
  - (B) Maintaining a centralized depository of state and national planning references[.];
- (6) Capital investment planning.
  - (A) In cooperation with the director of finance, establishing guidelines and criteria for capital improvement project appropriation proposals consistent with statewide planning goals and objectives and executive priorities; and
  - (B) Reviewing, in cooperation with the various state departments, the general and development plans of each county to identify statewide interests and to determine state capital improvement project needs of the plans.

In furtherance of these responsibilities, before each regular session of the legislature, the director of finance shall supply the governor with copies of the various capital improvement budget requests submitted by state agencies for inclusion in the proposed state executive budget. The director of finance shall also supply the governor with a list of proposed public works to be financed during the succeeding six years. Each county shall similarly provide the governor with a list of necessary capital improvements it expects to have financed during the succeeding six years. In preparing the lists, the counties shall indicate the contemplated means of financing each project. The office of state planning shall review the various capital improvement budget requests in relation to chapter 226 and any goals and objectives which the governor may prescribe. The office of state planning shall advise the governor on the various capital improvement budget requests and shall assist the governor as directed in formulating the capital improvements program[.];

- (7) Land use planning. Developing and presenting the position of the State in all boundary change petitions and proceedings before the land use commission, assisting state agencies in the development and submittal of petitions for land use district boundary amendments, and conducting periodic reviews of the classification and districting of all lands in the State, as specified in chapter 205[.];
- (8) Coastal and ocean policy management. Carrying out the lead agency responsibilities for the Hawaii coastal zone management program, as specified in chapter 205A. Also, developing and maintaining an ocean and coastal resources information, planning, and management system[.]; and
- (9) Regional studies. Conducting studies to determine:
  - (A) The capability of various regions within the State to support projected increases in both resident populations and visitors;
  - (B) The potential physical, social, economic, and environmental impact on these regions resulting from increases in both resident populations and visitors; and
  - (C) The maximum annual visitor carrying capacity for the State by region, county, and island.

The studies shall be conducted at appropriate intervals, but not less than once every five years."

SECTION 4. The office of state planning shall prepare and submit a report to the legislature during the regular session of 1991. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) A survey and evaluation of existing data bases and other data systems and sources to determine their applicability to SECTION 3 of this Act;
- (2) Identification of any additional data bases and data collection systems which must be developed for this purpose including estimated costs; and
- (3) Long-range program plans for the implementation of this Act.

The office shall determine the phasing of these regional or islandwide studies on a priority basis, recognizing the needs of regions that are faced with rapid growth and change, availability of data, and other suitable criteria.

SECTION 5. These studies shall commence as soon as practicable. The office may contract with other public or private entities to undertake regional carrying capacity studies. The studies may include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Infrastructure demand, including utilities, land use, and zoning;
- (2) Social factors, such as, but not limited to, community services and visitor population density;
- (3) Economic factors, such as, but not limited to, labor force and market conditions;
- (4) Cultural factors, such as, but not limited to, cultural tourism and sites;
- (5) Environmental factors, such as, but not limited to, conversion of conservation lands; and
- (6) Safety factors, such as, but not limited to, tsunami-prone and flood-prone areas.

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1990-1991, to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 7. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of state planning.

SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1990.

(Approved June 19, 1990.)