
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. Mauka to makai Hawaiian watershed units,
2 ahupua'a, exemplify efficient and effective natural management
3 and sustainable economic, social, and cultural systems in the
4 State of Hawaii. The legislature finds that management of
5 resources is in the best interest of the State to conserve
6 natural resources and address human needs including regulatory
7 compliance.

8 Section 6217 of the federal Coastal Zone Act
9 Reauthorization, as amended, requires the State to implement
10 programs to protect coastal waters from polluted runoff. Thus,
11 because Hawaii has an abundance of coastal waters, it is
12 important for the State to prevent the pollution of these waters
13 through effective watershed management.

14 For example, nonpoint source pollution involves
15 transportation and deposition of soil, chemicals,
16 microorganisms, and other contaminants into state reservoirs,
17 lakes, streams, near coastal waters, and the Pacific Ocean.



1 These contaminants ultimately threaten property and the public's
2 health, safety, and well-being.

3 The legislature further finds that unless water quantity
4 and quality are managed holistically, contaminant sources like
5 flooding and nonpoint source pollution will threaten economic,
6 social, and cultural resources, and resident health and safety.

7 The legislature believes that the community as a whole
8 would benefit from efficient watershed management. As an
9 example, agricultural lands and rural communities would benefit
10 by reduced flooding of fields, roadways, and areas with state
11 schools, parks, and other amenities. Communities and lands
12 adjacent to impaired water bodies, such as Kaiaka Bay on Oahu's
13 north shore, homeland security, irrigation, hydro-power, fire
14 protection, recreational tourist industry, and other economic
15 development that depend on clean, healthy, safe, and productive
16 resource management would also benefit.

17 In 2003, the college of tropical agriculture and human
18 resources at the University of Hawaii received federal funds to
19 implement the Hawaii Local Action Strategy. Specifically, the
20 Hawaii Local Action Strategy addressed land based pollution
21 threats to coral reefs in three ahupua'a (Honolua, Maui;
22 Hanalei, Kauai; and Kawela to Kapualei, Molokai).



1 The legislature further finds that in addition to the
2 Hawaii Local Action Strategy's pollution prevention activities,
3 research, extension, and education, assistance is necessary to
4 facilitate the integration of natural and human resources within
5 and among watersheds, and these goals should be accomplished
6 through a pilot watershed assessment and action plan ultimately
7 resulting in a statewide resource management model.

8 The legislature has identified Kaiaka Bay, Oahu, as an area
9 recently experiencing burgeoning residential, commercial,
10 agricultural, and homeland security growth and development
11 pressures as a prime candidate for watershed assessment and
12 action, including the use of the college of tropical agriculture
13 and human resources at the University of Hawaii expertise in
14 tropical plant and soil science, geographical information
15 systems technology and tools, community education, and
16 participatory outreach assistance.

17 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to conduct
18 a pilot project for the Kaiaka Bay, Oahu watershed and action
19 plan, as a model for statewide use.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000, or so much
22 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to



1 conduct a pilot project for the Kaiaka Bay, Oahu watershed and
2 action plan, as a model for statewide use.

3 SECTION 3. The pilot project under section 2 shall
4 include:

- 5 (1) Facilitating community participation to identify,
6 assess, and coordinate multi-purpose, multi-agency,
7 and multi-sector change;
- 8 (2) Establishing a watershed-wide environmental impact
9 monitoring education and training partnership with
10 schools and community groups;
- 11 (3) Participating as a watershed stakeholder to develop,
12 demonstrate, and disseminate watershed assessment and
13 action technologies and information to other watershed
14 communities statewide; and
- 15 (4) Sponsoring public outreach informational events to
16 demonstrate and capitalize on successful pilot
17 watershed assessment and action results throughout the
18 State.

19 SECTION 4. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the
20 University of Hawaii through the college of tropical agriculture
21 and human resources for the purposes of this Act.

1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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HB 2573

Report Title:

Watershed Assessment and Action Plan; Kaiaka Bay; Pilot Project

Description:

Appropriates moneys to conduct a pilot project for the Kaiaka Bay, Oahu watershed and action plan.

