
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE FIRE COUNCIL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that each year brushfires
2 endanger people and property on each island of the State. In
3 2007 alone, brushfires burned thousands of acres on the Waianae
4 Coast and North Shore of Oahu, Lahaina and the Kula Forest
5 Reserve on Maui, and Waikoloa on Hawaii. These fires threatened
6 homes and businesses in these areas, and they required vast
7 amounts of resources and personnel to bring them under control.

8 The purpose of this Act is to reduce the danger of
9 wildfires throughout the State by requiring the state fire
10 council to develop a comprehensive statewide brushfire
11 mitigation plan.

12 SECTION 2. The state fire council shall develop a
13 statewide brushfire mitigation plan. The plan shall include:

14 (1) Identification of private and public methods of
15 accomplishing the goal of brushfire reduction;

16 (2) Development of a program to educate the public on
17 brushfire prevention and safety; and



1 (3) Exploration of additional resources to prevent
2 brushfires and mitigate the effects of brushfires when
3 they occur.

4 SECTION 3. In developing the statewide brushfire
5 mitigation plan, the state fire council shall investigate the
6 potential effects of widespread use of reduced ignition
7 propensity cigarettes in the prevention of brushfires throughout
8 the State.

9 SECTION 4. The state fire council shall develop
10 recommendations for proposed legislation designed to reduce the
11 occurrence of brushfires in the State and mitigate the harmful
12 effects of brushfires when they occur. The state fire council
13 shall report its findings, including proposed legislation, to
14 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
15 regular session of 2009.




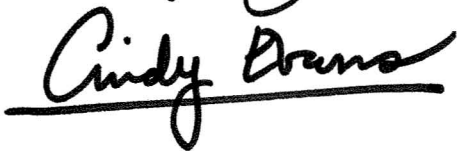
16 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000 or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
19 purposes of this Act, including the establishment and staffing
20 of a minimum of four positions to implement a public education
21 program on brushfire prevention and safety.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 labor and industrial relations for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.
4

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 16 2008



Report Title:

State Fire Council

Description:

Requires the State Fire Council to develop a statewide brushfire mitigation plan and appropriate funds.

