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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUSTAINABILITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. During the special session of 2005, the  
2 legislature passed S.B. No. 1592, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1, which  
3 was enacted as Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005 (Act  
4 8), to create the Hawaii 2050 task force to review the Hawaii  
5 state plan and the State's planning process. The office of the  
6 auditor was required to prepare and submit to the legislature  
7 the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan. Act 8 expressed the  
8 legislature's belief that government is responsible for  
9 addressing immediate issues and meeting public needs while also  
10 providing guidance to ensure a sustainable future.

11           The creation of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan comes  
12 as the state faces a growing number of pressing concerns,  
13 including the steady deterioration of public infrastructure; the  
14 lack of affordable housing; a continued reliance on a service-  
15 based economy; the vulnerability of Hawaii in a volatile global  
16 energy market; possible interruptions to travel and critical  
17 food supplies; threats to fragile island ecosystems; and ever-



1 increasing numbers of residents and visitors. These issues all  
2 raise questions about the long-term limits of growth in the  
3 state and motivate the need to begin planning and action to  
4 ensure Hawaii's future.

5 Addressing and solving issues critical to Hawaii's way of  
6 life and natural resources require coordinated community efforts  
7 to produce comprehensive, long-range planning policies and  
8 actions. Within that context, the mission of the Hawaii 2050  
9 task force and the objectives of the Hawaii 2050 sustainability  
10 plan are intended to revitalize the State's long-term planning  
11 process to better guide the future development of Hawaii.

12 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 13 (1) Set forth and adopt the Hawaii 2050 sustainability  
14 plan;
- 15 (2) Establish a sustainability council to coordinate,  
16 implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the  
17 Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan and its related  
18 activities; and
- 19 (3) Appropriate funds for the creation of the  
20 sustainability council.



1 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
2 adding a new chapter under title 13 to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "CHAPTER

5 HAWAII 2050 SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

6 § -1 Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that  
7 over the years, the Hawaii state plan under chapter 226 has  
8 become outdated and there is a lack of awareness of the goals  
9 embodied therein. In 2005, the legislature passed S.B. No.  
10 1592, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, C.D. 1, which was enacted as Act 8,  
11 Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, to create the Hawaii 2050  
12 task force to review the Hawaii state plan and develop a  
13 sustainability plan to address the vital needs of the state  
14 through the year 2050. The office of the auditor was required  
15 to prepare and submit to the legislature the Hawaii 2050  
16 sustainability plan.

17 The task force developed a comprehensive sustainability  
18 plan that provides a definition for sustainability; identifies  
19 guiding principles and five major goals for Hawaii 2050;  
20 identifies and proposes strategic actions to implement these  
21 five major goals, indicators to measure the success or failure  
22 in various sustainability actions, and priority actions and



1 intermediate steps for a target date of 2020; and establishes  
2 recommendations.

3 The purpose of this chapter is to:

4 (1) Set forth the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan, which  
5 shall serve as a guide for the future long-range  
6 development of the state;

7 (2) Provide a mechanism to implement strategic actions to  
8 achieve objectives and use indicators to measure  
9 progress in the State's efforts to achieve its  
10 objectives; and

11 (3) Establish a coordinating body for plan implementation,  
12 progress review, and program coordination to provide  
13 for the integration of all major state and county  
14 activities to achieve a sustainable future.

15 **§ -2 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the  
16 following words and terms shall have the following meanings  
17 unless the context shall indicate another or different meaning  
18 or intent:

19 "Ahupuaa" means a traditional native Hawaiian resource and  
20 behavioral management system that ensures respect for the air,  
21 land, water, and other scarce natural resources that make life  
22 sustainable from the mountains to the sea.



1 "Council" means the sustainability council.

2 "Kanaʻka Maoli" means native Hawaiians.

3 "Plan" means the Hawaii 2050 sustainability plan.

4 "Task force" means the Hawaii 2050 task force established  
5 under Act 8, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2005.

6 **§ -3 Sustainability; guiding principles.** (a) As a  
7 result of a statewide community effort and engagement process,  
8 it was revealed that most Hawaii residents desire a balance  
9 between economic, cultural, and environmental concerns. Thus,  
10 sustainability is defined as a Hawaii that achieves the  
11 following:

12 (1) Respects the culture, character, beauty, and history  
13 of the state's island communities;

14 (2) Strikes a balance between economic, social, community,  
15 and environmental priorities; and

16 (3) Meets the needs of the present without compromising  
17 the ability of future generations to meet their own  
18 needs.

19 (b) The following principles or values are established as  
20 the overall theme of the sustainability plan:

21 (1) To balance economic, social, community, and  
22 environmental priorities;



- 1           (2) To respect and live within the natural resources and
- 2           limits of the state;
- 3           (3) To achieve a diversified and dynamic economy;
- 4           (4) To honor the host culture;
- 5           (5) To make decisions based on meeting present needs
- 6           without compromising the needs of future generations;
- 7           (6) To observe the principles of the ahupuaa system to
- 8           guide resource management decisions; and
- 9           (7) To emphasize that everyone, including individuals,
- 10          families, communities, businesses, and government, has
- 11          the responsibility for achieving a sustainable Hawaii.

12          **§ -4 Sustainability goals.** There are established five  
13 major goals that are designed to achieve a preferred future by  
14 the year 2050, as follows:

- 15          (1) A way of life where living sustainably is a part of
- 16          daily practice in Hawaii;
- 17          (2) A diversified and globally competitive economy that
- 18          will enable residents to live, work, and play
- 19          meaningfully in Hawaii;
- 20          (3) The use of the state's natural resources are
- 21          responsibly and respectfully used, replenished, and
- 22          preserved for future generations;



1 (4) A community that is strong, healthy, vibrant, and  
2 nurturing, thus providing safety nets for those in  
3 need; and

4 (5) Kanaka Maoli and island cultures and values are  
5 thriving and perpetuated.

6 The council shall develop and implement various strategic  
7 actions to accomplish each major goal.

8 **§ -5 Sustainability council; established.** (a) There is  
9 established a sustainability council, which shall be a body  
10 corporate and a public instrumentality of the State, for the  
11 purpose of implementing this chapter. The council shall be  
12 placed administratively within the office of the auditor for  
13 administrative purposes until June 30, 2010. The council shall  
14 be placed administratively within the office of planning for  
15 administrative purposes beginning on July 1, 2010. The purposes  
16 of the council shall include the following:

17 (1) Assisting in the adoption of the principles of  
18 sustainability as an important policy priority for the  
19 State;

20 (2) Setting forth and implementing the Hawaii  
21 sustainability plan to serve as a long-range  
22 sustainability planning guide for the State; and



1           (3) Measuring the State's progress in meeting its  
2           sustainability goals and objectives.

3           (b) The council shall consist of fifteen voting members to  
4 be appointed by the governor to serve staggered terms and  
5 pursuant to section 26-34 in the following manner:

6           (1) Six of the members shall be governmental appointments  
7 as follows:

8           (A) One member shall be appointed by the governor;

9           (B) Four members to represent each county of the  
10 state shall be appointed by the governor from a  
11 list of no more than three nominees submitted by  
12 each of the four mayors; provided that each  
13 member shall reside in the county that the member  
14 represents; and

15           (C) One member shall be appointed by the governor  
16 from a list of no more than three nominees  
17 submitted by the office of Hawaiian affairs;

18 and

19           (2) Nine members shall be public members appointed by the  
20 governor with statewide expertise and interests in the  
21 following areas, including Kanaka Maoli; business,  
22 science, and technology; labor; environment; cultural





1           diversity; visitor industry; military; agriculture;  
2           education; and health and human services; provided  
3           that at least one public member shall be a  
4           representative of the state's population under twenty-  
5           five years of age;

6           provided that, of the initial appointments, at least five of the  
7           members shall be members of the Hawaii 2050 task force and be  
8           appointed by the governor from a list of nominees submitted by  
9           the task force, excluding task force members who are members of  
10          the legislature or employees of the State, for a term of two  
11          years to expire on June 30, 2010. The superintendent of  
12          education and the director of the office of planning shall serve  
13          as ex-officio, non-voting members. The general public shall be  
14          permitted to submit nominations for council members.

15           (c) The members of the council appointed under subsection  
16           (b) shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for  
17           expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the performance  
18           of their duties.

19           (d) The council shall appoint an executive director who  
20           shall serve at the pleasure of the council and shall be exempt  
21           from chapter 76. The council shall set the salary and duties of  
22           the executive director.



1 (e) The council may appoint an advisory committee for each  
2 of the following categories:

- 3 (1) Education and community engagement;
- 4 (2) Marketing and public awareness;
- 5 (3) Economic development and diversification;
- 6 (4) Environment and natural resources;
- 7 (5) Social and community development; and
- 8 (6) Kanaka Maoli and island lifestyle.

9 Each advisory committee shall consist of five members who shall  
10 serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses  
11 incurred in the performance of their duties. The members of the  
12 advisory committee shall be drawn from fields of activity  
13 related to each category and be selected by the council.

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
17 the creation of a sustainability council to coordinate,  
18 implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050  
19 sustainability plan and its related activities.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the  
21 auditor for the purposes of this Act.



# H.B. NO. 3339

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

3

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 23 2008



**Report Title:**

Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan

**Description:**

Adopts the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. Establishes a Sustainability Council to coordinate, implement, measure, and evaluate the progress of the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan and activities. Appropriates funds to the Sustainability Council.

