
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE EMERGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL
WORKFORCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Act 4, Third Special Session Laws of Hawaii
2 2001, is amended by amending sections 1, 2, and 3 to read as
3 follows:

4 "~~SECTION 1. The September 11, 2001, tragedy, resulting~~
5 ~~from terrorist attacks in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania,~~
6 ~~has changed the lives of Americans and the way government~~
7 ~~responds to acts of terrorism. Today, all levels of government~~
8 ~~across the nation are facing challenges to meet the needs of all~~
9 ~~constituents.~~

10 ~~The federal government faces the monumental task of~~
11 ~~developing and implementing America's response to violent acts~~
12 ~~of terrorism and preparing an extensive network of security and~~
13 ~~intelligence to meet national and international needs. While~~
14 ~~New York faces the enormous tasks of rebuilding and restoring~~
15 ~~disrupted services to its people, other state and local~~
16 ~~governments across the nation must deal with the "ripple effect"~~
17 ~~of a disrupted world economy.~~



1 ~~Here in Hawaii, state and county leaders of executive and~~
2 ~~legislative branches of government have begun to assess the~~
3 ~~impact of September 11 on the local economy within the context~~
4 ~~of broader national and international economies. While the~~
5 ~~visitor industry has been the first segment of our local economy~~
6 ~~to suffer the effects of decreased leisure travel, other~~
7 ~~ancillary or related industries have been impacted as well.~~

8 ~~Analysis and research are still needed to provide a clearer~~
9 ~~forecast as to the potential duration and depth of the visitor~~
10 ~~downturn.~~

11 ~~While government assesses the State's long term needs and~~
12 ~~continues its efforts to lessen negative economic impacts of~~
13 ~~activities or undertakings beyond our control, immediate short-~~
14 ~~term solutions are needed for Hawaii's people being negatively~~
15 ~~impacted with reduced work schedules or layoffs. Immediate~~
16 ~~solutions for immediate relief will require unprecedented levels~~
17 ~~of cooperation between state and local government, and between~~
18 ~~public and private entities, and bold yet productive proposals.~~

19 ~~The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the~~
20 ~~establishment of an emergency environmental workforce for short-~~
21 ~~term employment for individuals who have lost their jobs because~~
22 ~~of Hawaii's recent economic downturn. Individuals willing to~~



1 ~~accept the challenge of a workforce job will assist the efforts~~
2 ~~to:~~

- 3 ~~(1) Isolate the spread of dengue fever,~~
4 ~~(2) Eradicate the miconia plant and other invasive plants,~~
5 ~~and~~
6 ~~(3) Reduce coqui frog and fire ant populations.]~~

7 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the September 11,
8 2001, terrorist attacks continue to have lasting impacts on the
9 lives of Hawaii residents and other Americans. The ensuing wars
10 in Afghanistan and Iraq are ongoing and have cost the United
11 States over \$600,000,000,000 thus far. The exorbitant economic
12 cost of these wars represents the opportunity cost of providing
13 social safety nets and ultimately translates into lower
14 resiliency in the face of economic downturns.

15 The legislature finds that the recent collapse of national
16 credit, housing, financial, and other markets has culminated in
17 the current national economic crisis, which continues to have
18 severe consequences on the local economy, including significant
19 losses in local air transportation, tourism, restaurant, and
20 other industries. Moreover, the department of labor and
21 industrial relations estimates that state employment has grown
22 by just 0.07 per cent annually from 2007 to 2009.



1 During severe national and local economic downturns, cost
2 efficiency is an important guideline for use in determining
3 which state activities to pursue and prioritize. Activities
4 that can accomplish multiple goals can help the state weather
5 seasons of financial shortage. The legislature finds that the
6 emergency environmental workforce is a program that provides
7 short-term employment to those who need it as well as a
8 workforce to protect Hawaii's environment. The legislature
9 further finds that the emergency environmental workforce program
10 should be continued, especially during times of war or
11 significant economic hardship that may occur in the future.

12 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to
13 establish the emergency environmental workforce program to
14 provide short-term employment for individuals who have lost
15 their jobs due to the recent national and local economic
16 downturns and to continue to provide emergency environmental
17 workforce services during periods of warfare or significant
18 economic hardship.

19 SECTION 2. There is established the emergency
20 environmental workforce program to be attached to [~~The Research~~
21 ~~Corporation~~] the research corporation of the University of



1 Hawaii for administrative purposes. The emergency environmental
2 workforce program shall:

3 (1) Employ, as employees of the research corporation of
4 the University of Hawaii for no fewer than twelve
5 months, approximately [~~four hundred to four hundred~~
6 fifty] _____ individuals who were terminated from
7 their jobs [~~after the September 11 tragedy as~~]:

8 (A) As a result of [~~the~~] significant local economic
9 downturn[~~. The individuals shall be employed as~~
10 three month contract employees,]; or

11 (B) As a result of acts of war;
12 provided that these employees shall be subject to the
13 employment policies and procedures of the research
14 corporation of the University of Hawaii, except for
15 any applicable unemployment insurance coverage which
16 shall be the responsibility of the State;

17 (2) Deploy contract employees to all island mayors
18 certifying a need for environmental clearance and
19 eradication services to supplement current services
20 being provided for the isolation of dengue fever, the
21 eradication of the miconia plant and other invasive



1 plants, and the reduction of coqui frog and fire ant
2 populations; and

3 (3) Coordinate its efforts with the efforts of the
4 invasive species committee on each island.

5 Any procurement actions related to the program shall be
6 subject to the applicable policies of the research corporation
7 of the University of Hawaii.

8 SECTION 3. The [~~Research Corporation~~] research corporation
9 of the University of Hawaii shall:

10 (1) Together with the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit,
11 develop a planning, administration, implementation,
12 and evaluation strategy, including a program duration
13 plan and a budget for contract and administrative
14 expenses for the sum appropriated;

15 (2) Consult with private employers with workforces, which
16 have, or which may be, affected by layoffs [~~from the~~
17 ~~economic downturn as a result of the September 11~~
18 ~~tragedy~~] resulting from any of the events set forth in
19 paragraph (1) of section 2 of this Act to develop a
20 recruitment and public information plan;

21 (3) Develop a strategy for the interviewing and selection
22 of program participants;



- 1 (4) Work with island mayors requesting cleaning and
2 eradication services to administer physical
3 examinations, as may be necessary, to qualifying
4 applicants prior to final contract offers;
- 5 ~~[(5) Request that the attorneys employed or retained by the~~
6 ~~University of Hawaii prepare the necessary employment~~
7 ~~contracts to meet the objectives of the program on an~~
8 ~~expedited basis;~~
- 9 (6)] (5) Submit review and assessment reports to the
10 governor, the senate president, and the house speaker
11 every sixty days for the duration of the program; and
- 12 ~~[(7)]~~ (6) Undertake all other necessary activities for
13 program development and implementation."

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the federal funds
15 received by the State from the American Recovery and
16 Reinvestment Act of 2009 and any other applicable federal Acts
17 the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for
18 fiscal year 2009-2010 to fund the emergency environmental
19 workforce established under Act 4, Third Special Session Laws of
20 Hawaii 2001, as amended by this Act.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research
2 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this
3 Act.

4 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

Emergency Environmental Workforce Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to continue the Emergency Environmental Workforce Program. (SB713 HD2)

