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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PERMITS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that obtaining permits,  
2 licenses, and other approvals from state departments and  
3 agencies is often a long and time consuming process, especially  
4 for small businesses and not-for-profit groups that do not have  
5 the financial and personnel resources to shepherd permit and  
6 license applications through multiple and often duplicative  
7 processes.

8           The purpose of this Act is to create a "permit czar" in  
9 each of the departments of agriculture and land and natural  
10 resources to consolidate and facilitate the permit processing  
11 procedures in these two departments.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 141, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14 and to read as follows:

15           "§141-       Permitting coordinator. (a) There is  
16 established within the department of agriculture a permitting



1 coordinator to be appointed by the governor pursuant to section  
2 26-34.

3 (b) All permits, licenses, and approvals whose issuance or  
4 denial comes within the purview of the department of  
5 agriculture, shall be reviewed, processed, and granted or denied  
6 by the permitting coordinator. The permitting coordinator  
7 shall:

- 8 (1) Identify all agencies within the department of  
9 agriculture with permit processing or approval  
10 responsibilities;
- 11 (2) Develop, coordinate, and implement short-term and  
12 long-range policies and directions to streamline  
13 permit processing by the department of agriculture;
- 14 (3) Consult with other appropriate state and county  
15 departments or agencies to develop and establish a  
16 permit plan application format and procedure designed  
17 to ensure a timely review and to obtain any required  
18 permits and approvals of those departments or  
19 agencies;
- 20 (4) Receive a permit plan application, in a form as the  
21 coordinator shall prescribe, with any appropriate



- 1           application and processing fees as determined by the  
2           coordinator;
- 3       (5) Assist in the permit plan application process by  
4           coordinating permitting processes, giving technical  
5           assistance, and overseeing the creation of a permit  
6           plan;
- 7       (6) Coordinate public meetings as required to:
- 8           (A) Allow members of the affected communities to  
9           provide input regarding the issuance or denial of  
10           the permit;
- 11          (B) Promote public awareness of the permit  
12           application; and
- 13          (C) Allow the permitting coordinator and the  
14           applicant to gain public sentiment and concerns  
15           regarding the permit application;
- 16       (7) Grant, deny, or condition the issuance of the  
17           requested permit;
- 18       (8) Advise the chairperson and the board of agriculture on  
19           all issues relating to permit processing; and
- 20       (9) Perform any and all other necessary or desirable  
21           functions to facilitate the intent of this section as



1 requested or required by the chairperson or the board  
2 of agriculture.

3 (c) In carrying out the duties of this section, the  
4 permitting coordinator may utilize the services of any and all  
5 agencies of the department of agriculture with permit processing  
6 or approval functions.

7 (d) The permitting coordinator shall seek and utilize any  
8 available funding sources, including grant moneys, to carry out  
9 the duties of this section."

10 SECTION 3. Chapter 171, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
12 and to read as follows:

13 "§171- \_\_\_\_\_ Permitting coordinator. (a) There is  
14 established within the department a permitting coordinator to be  
15 appointed by the governor pursuant to section 26-34.

16 (b) All permits, licenses, and approvals whose issuance or  
17 denial comes within the purview of the department, shall be  
18 reviewed, processed, and granted or denied by the permitting  
19 coordinator. The permitting coordinator shall:

20 (1) Identify all agencies within the department with  
21 permit processing or approval responsibilities;



- 1        (2) Develop, coordinate, and implement short-term and  
2                    long-range policies and directions to streamline  
3                    permit processing by the department;
- 4        (3) Consult with other appropriate state and county  
5                    departments or agencies to develop and establish a  
6                    permit plan application format and procedure designed  
7                    to ensure a timely review and to obtain any required  
8                    permits and approvals of those departments or  
9                    agencies;
- 10       (4) Receive a permit plan application, in a form as the  
11                   coordinator shall prescribe, with any appropriate  
12                   application and processing fees as determined by the  
13                   coordinator;
- 14       (5) Assist in the permit plan application process by  
15                   coordinating permitting processes, giving technical  
16                   assistance, and overseeing the creation of a permit  
17                   plan;
- 18       (6) Coordinate public meetings as required to:  
19                   (A) Allow members of the affected communities to  
20                   provide input regarding the issuance or denial of  
21                   the permit;

- 1           (B) Promote public awareness of the permit
- 2           application; and
- 3           (C) Allow the permitting coordinator and the
- 4           applicant to gain public sentiment and concerns
- 5           regarding the permit application;
- 6           (7) Grant, deny, or condition the issuance of the
- 7           requested permit;
- 8           (8) Advise the chairperson and the board on all issues
- 9           relating to permit processing; and
- 10          (9) Perform any and all other necessary or desirable
- 11          functions to facilitate the intent of this section as
- 12          requested or required by the chairperson or the board.
- 13          (c) In carrying out the duties of this section, the
- 14          permitting coordinator may utilize the services of any and all
- 15          agencies of the department with permit processing or approval
- 16          functions.
- 17          (d) The permitting coordinator shall seek and utilize any
- 18          available funding sources, including grant moneys, to carry out
- 19          the duties of this section."

20           SECTION 4. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of  
21 the department of agriculture and the department of land and  
22 natural resources relating to licensing and permitting are



1 transferred to the permitting coordinators of the respective  
2 departments.

3 SECTION 5. All appropriations, records, equipment,  
4 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,  
5 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,  
6 acquired, or held by the department of agriculture and the  
7 department of land and natural resources relating to the  
8 functions transferred to the permitting coordinators of the  
9 respective departments shall be transferred with the functions  
10 to which they relate.

11 SECTION 6. All rules, policies, procedures, guidelines,  
12 and other material adopted or developed by the department of  
13 agriculture and the department of land and natural resources to  
14 implement provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes which are  
15 reenacted or made applicable to the permitting coordinator of  
16 the respective department by this Act, shall remain in full  
17 force and effect until amended or repealed by the permitting  
18 coordinator pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes. In  
19 the interim, every reference to the agency or unit of the  
20 department or the head of the agency or unit in those rules,  
21 policies, procedures, guidelines, and other material is amended  
22 to refer to the permitting coordinator as appropriate.



1 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 20 2010





**Report Title:**

Permit Czars; DOA; DLNR

**Description:**

Establishes permitting coordinators in the department of agriculture and department of land and natural resources to coordinate and streamline permit processing procedures. Transfers permitting functions of those departments to their permitting coordinators.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

