

JAN 27 2010

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to revise the  
2 environmental review process to create an approach that is based  
3 primarily on land use decisions rather than individual projects.

4           SECTION 2. Section 304A-1551, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

6           "(a) There is created within the university an  
7 environmental center. [~~The center shall assist the director of~~  
8 ~~environmental quality control as provided for under section~~  
9 ~~341-4.~~]"

10          SECTION 3. Section 341-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12          "**§341-2 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the  
13 context otherwise requires:

14          [~~"Center" means the University of Hawaii environmental~~  
15 ~~center established in section [304A 1551].~~]

16          "Council" means the environmental council established in  
17 section [~~341-3(e).~~] 341-3(b).



1 "Director" means the director of the office of  
2 environmental quality control.

3 "Office" means the office of environmental quality control  
4 established in section 341-3(a).

5 [~~"University" means the University of Hawaii.~~]"

6 SECTION 4. Section 341-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "§341-3 Office of environmental quality control;

9 [~~environmental center;~~] environmental council. (a) There is  
10 created an office of environmental quality control that shall be  
11 headed by a single executive to be known as the director of the  
12 office of environmental quality control who shall be appointed  
13 by the governor as provided in section 26-34. This office shall  
14 implement this chapter and shall be placed within the  
15 [~~department of health~~] office of the governor for administrative  
16 purposes. The office shall perform its duties under chapter 343  
17 and shall serve the governor in an advisory capacity on all  
18 matters relating to environmental quality control.

19 (b) [~~The environmental center within the University of~~  
20 ~~Hawaii shall be as established under section [304A 1551].~~

21 ~~(e)]~~ There is created an environmental council not to  
22 exceed fifteen members. Except for the director, members of the



1 environmental council shall be appointed by the governor as  
2 provided in section 26-34. The council shall be attached to the  
3 ~~[department of health]~~ office of the governor for administrative  
4 purposes. Except for the director, the term of each member  
5 shall be four years; provided that, of the members initially  
6 appointed, five members shall serve for four years, five members  
7 shall serve for three years, and the remaining four members  
8 shall serve for two years. Vacancies shall be filled for the  
9 remainder of any unexpired term in the same manner as original  
10 appointments. The director shall be an ex officio voting member  
11 of the council. The council chairperson shall be elected by the  
12 council from among the appointed members of the council.

13 Members shall be appointed to assure a broad and balanced  
14 representation of educational, business, and environmentally  
15 pertinent disciplines and professions, such as the natural and  
16 social sciences, the humanities, architecture, engineering,  
17 environmental consulting, public health, and planning;  
18 educational and research institutions with environmental  
19 competence; agriculture, real estate, visitor industry,  
20 construction, media, and voluntary community and environmental  
21 groups. The members of the council shall serve without



1 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including  
2 travel expenses, incurred in the discharge of their duties."

3 SECTION 5. Section 341-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

5 "(b) To further the objective of subsection (a), the  
6 director shall:

7 (1) Direct the attention of the [~~university community and~~  
8 ~~the~~] residents of the State in general to ecological  
9 and environmental problems through [~~the center and~~  
10 the council[, ~~respectively~~,] and through public  
11 education programs;

12 (2) Conduct research or arrange for the conduct of  
13 research through contractual relations with [~~the~~  
14 ~~center, state~~] state, county, and federal agencies, or  
15 other persons with competence in the field of ecology  
16 and environmental quality;

17 (3) Encourage public acceptance of proposed legislative  
18 and administrative actions concerning ecology and  
19 environmental quality, and receive notice of any  
20 private or public complaints concerning ecology and  
21 environmental quality through the council;



- 1           (4) Recommend programs for long-range implementation of
- 2           environmental quality control;
- 3           (5) Submit direct to the governor and to the legislature
- 4           ~~[such]~~ any legislative bills and administrative
- 5           policies, objectives, and actions, as are necessary to
- 6           preserve and enhance the environmental quality of the
- 7           State;
- 8           (6) Conduct public educational programs; and
- 9           (7) Offer advice and assistance to private industry,
- 10          governmental agencies, or other persons upon request."

11          SECTION 6. Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended as follows:

13           1. By amending section 343-1 to read:

14          "**§343-1 Findings and purpose.** The legislature finds that  
15 the quality of humanity's environment is critical to humanity's  
16 well being, that humanity's activities have broad and profound  
17 effects upon the interrelations of all components of the  
18 environment, and that an environmental review process will  
19 integrate the review of environmental concerns with existing  
20 planning processes of the State and counties and alert decision  
21 makers to significant environmental effects which may result  
22 from the implementation of certain actions. The legislature



1 further finds that the process of reviewing environmental  
2 effects is desirable because environmental consciousness is  
3 enhanced, cooperation and coordination are encouraged, and  
4 public participation during the review process benefits all  
5 parties involved and society as a whole.

6 It is the purpose of this chapter to establish a non-  
7 regulatory, public disclosure system of environmental review  
8 which will ensure that environmental concerns are given  
9 appropriate consideration in decision making along with economic  
10 and technical considerations."

11 2. By amending section 343-2 to read:

12 **"§343-2 Definitions.** As used in this chapter unless the  
13 context otherwise requires:

14 "Acceptance" means a formal determination that the document  
15 required to be filed pursuant to section 343-5 fulfills the  
16 definition of an environmental impact statement[7] as a public  
17 disclosure document which adequately describes identifiable  
18 environmental impacts, and satisfactorily responds to comments  
19 received during the review of the statement.

20 [~~"Action" means any program or project to be initiated by~~  
21 ~~any agency or applicant.~~]



1        [~~"Agency"~~] "Agency action" means any program or project to  
2 be initiated by any department, office, board, or commission of  
3 the state or county government which is a part of the executive  
4 branch of that government.

5        [~~"Applicant"~~] "Applicant action" means any program or  
6 project to be initiated by any person who, pursuant to statute,  
7 ordinance, or rule, officially requests discretionary approval  
8 for a proposed action.

9        "Approval" means a discretionary [~~consent~~] approval  
10 required from an agency prior to actual implementation of an  
11 action.

12        "Council" means the environmental council.

13        "Director" means the director of the office of  
14 environmental quality control.

15        "Discretionary [~~consent~~] approval" means a land use  
16 related consent, sanction, or recommendation from an agency for  
17 which judgment and free will may be exercised by the issuing  
18 agency, as distinguished from a ministerial [~~consent~~] approval.

19        "Environmental assessment" means a written evaluation to  
20 determine whether an action may have a significant effect.

21        "Environmental impact statement" or "statement" means an  
22 informational document prepared in compliance with the rules



1 adopted under section 343-6 and which discloses the  
2 environmental effects of a proposed action, effects of a  
3 proposed action on the economic welfare, social welfare, and  
4 cultural practices of the community and State, effects of the  
5 economic activities arising out of the proposed action, measures  
6 proposed to minimize adverse effects, and alternatives to the  
7 action and their environmental effects.

8       The initial statement filed for public review shall be  
9 referred to as the draft statement and shall be distinguished  
10 from the final statement which is the document that has  
11 incorporated the public's comments and the responses to those  
12 comments. The final statement is the document that shall be  
13 evaluated for acceptability by the respective accepting  
14 authority.

15       "Exempt" means any specific type of agency or applicant  
16 action, that due to the probable finding of minimal or no  
17 significant effects on the environment, is declared exempt from  
18 the preparation of an environmental assessment, including any  
19 action that is consistent with existing zoning, county general  
20 or development plans.

21       "Finding of no significant impact" means a determination  
22 based on an environmental assessment that the subject action





1 will not have a significant effect and, therefore, will not  
2 require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

3 ~~["Helicopter facility" means any area of land or water  
4 which is used, or intended for use for the landing or takeoff of  
5 helicopters; and any appurtenant areas which are used, or  
6 intended for use for helicopter related activities or rights of  
7 way.]~~

8 "Office" means the office of environmental quality control.

9 "Person" includes any individual, partnership, firm,  
10 association, trust, estate, private corporation, or other legal  
11 entity other than an agency.

12 ~~["Power generating facility" means:~~

13 ~~(1) A new, fossil fueled, electricity generating facility,  
14 where the electrical output rating of the new  
15 equipment exceeds 5.0 megawatts; or~~

16 ~~(2) An expansion in generating capacity of an existing,  
17 fossil fueled, electricity generating facility, where  
18 the incremental electrical output rating of the new  
19 equipment exceeds 5.0 megawatts.~~

20 ~~"Renewable energy facility" has the same meaning as defined  
21 in section 201N-1.]~~



1 "Significant effect" means the sum of effects on the  
2 quality of the environment, including actions that irrevocably  
3 commit a natural resource, curtail the range of beneficial uses  
4 of the environment, are contrary to the State's environmental  
5 policies or long-term environmental goals as established by law,  
6 or adversely affect the economic welfare, social welfare, or  
7 cultural practices of the community and State.

8 ~~["Wastewater treatment unit" means any plant or facility  
9 used in the treatment of wastewater.] "~~

10 3. By amending section 343-5 to read:

11 **"§343-5 Applicability and requirements.** (a) Except as  
12 otherwise provided, an environmental assessment shall be  
13 required for actions that:

14 (1) Propose the use of state or county lands or the use of  
15 state or county funds, other than funds to be used for  
16 feasibility or planning studies for possible future  
17 programs or projects that the agency has not approved,  
18 adopted, or funded, or funds to be used for the  
19 acquisition of unimproved real property; provided that  
20 the use of government owned road rights-of-way solely  
21 for utility and access connections shall not require  
22 an environmental assessment or a statement; provided



1           further that the agency shall consider environmental  
2 factors and available alternatives in its feasibility  
3 or planning studies; provided further that an  
4 environmental assessment for proposed uses under  
5 section 205-2(d) (11) or 205-4.5(a) (13) shall only be  
6 required pursuant to section 205-5(b);

7           (2) Propose any use within any land classified as a  
8 conservation district by the state land use commission  
9 under chapter 205;

10          (3) Propose any use within a shoreline area as defined in  
11 section 205A-41;

12          (4) Propose any use within any historic site as designated  
13 in the National Register or Hawaii Register, as  
14 provided for in the National Historic Preservation Act  
15 of 1966, Public Law 89-665, or chapter 6E;

16          (5) Propose any use within the Waikiki area of Oahu, the  
17 boundaries of which are delineated in the land use  
18 ordinance as amended, establishing the "Waikiki  
19 Special District";

20          (6) Propose any amendments to existing county general  
21 plans where the amendment would result in designations  
22 other than agriculture, conservation, or preservation,



1           except actions proposing any new county general plan  
2           or amendments to any existing county general plan  
3           initiated by a county;

4           (7) Propose any reclassification of any land classified as  
5           a conservation district by the state land use  
6           commission under chapter 205; and

7           (8) ~~[Propose the construction of new or the expansion or~~  
8           ~~modification of existing helicopter facilities within~~  
9           ~~the State, that by way of their activities, may~~  
10           ~~affect:~~

11           ~~(A) Any land classified as a conservation district by~~  
12           ~~the state land use commission under chapter 205;~~

13           ~~(B) A shoreline area as defined in section 205A 41;~~  
14           ~~or~~

15           ~~(C) Any historic site as designated in the National~~  
16           ~~Register or Hawaii Register, as provided for in~~  
17           ~~the Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Public Law~~  
18           ~~89 665, or chapter 6E; or until the statewide~~  
19           ~~historic places inventory is completed, any~~  
20           ~~historic site that is found by a field~~  
21           ~~reconnaissance of the area affected by the~~  
22           ~~helicopter facility and is under consideration~~



1                   ~~for placement on the National Register or the~~  
2                   ~~Hawaii Register of Historic Places; and~~

3           ~~(9) Propose any:~~

4           ~~(A) Wastewater treatment unit, except an individual~~  
5           ~~wastewater system or a wastewater treatment unit~~  
6           ~~serving fewer than fifty single family dwellings~~  
7           ~~or the equivalent;~~

8           ~~(B) Waste to energy facility;~~

9           ~~(C) Landfill;~~

10          ~~(D) Oil refinery; or~~

11          ~~(E) Power generating facility.] Propose any~~

12                   reclassification of any land classified as  
13                   agricultural to urban district by the state land use  
14                   commission under chapter 205.

15           (b) Agency action. Whenever an agency proposes an action  
16 in subsection (a), other than feasibility or planning studies  
17 for possible future programs or projects that the agency has not  
18 approved, adopted, or funded, or other than the use of state or  
19 county funds for the acquisition of unimproved real property  
20 that is not a specific type of action declared exempt under  
21 section 343-6, the agency shall prepare an environmental  
22 assessment for ~~[such]~~ the action at the earliest practicable



1 time to determine whether an environmental impact statement  
2 shall be required.

3 (1) For environmental assessments for which a finding of  
4 no significant impact is anticipated:

5 (A) A draft environmental assessment shall be made  
6 available for public review and comment for a  
7 period of thirty days;

8 (B) The office shall inform the public of the  
9 availability of the draft environmental  
10 assessment for public review and comment pursuant  
11 to section 343-3;

12 (C) The agency shall respond in writing to comments  
13 received during the review and prepare a final  
14 environmental assessment to determine whether an  
15 environmental impact statement shall be required;

16 (D) A statement shall be required if the agency finds  
17 that the proposed action may have a significant  
18 effect on the environment; and

19 (E) The agency shall file notice of ~~such~~ the  
20 determination with the office. When a conflict  
21 of interest may exist because the proposing  
22 agency and the agency making the determination



1 are the same, the office may review the agency's  
2 determination, consult the agency, and advise the  
3 agency of potential conflicts, to comply with  
4 this section. The office shall publish the final  
5 determination for the public's information  
6 pursuant to section 343-3.

7 The draft and final statements, if required, shall be  
8 prepared by the agency and submitted to the office. The draft  
9 statement shall be made available for public review and comment  
10 through the office for a period of forty-five days. The office  
11 shall inform the public of the availability of the draft  
12 statement for public review and comment pursuant to section  
13 343-3. The agency shall respond in writing to comments received  
14 during the review and prepare a final statement.

15 The office, when requested by the agency, may make a  
16 recommendation as to the acceptability of the final statement.

17 (2) The final authority to accept a final statement shall  
18 rest with:

19 (A) The governor, or the governor's authorized  
20 representative, whenever an action proposes the  
21 use of state lands or the use of state funds, or

1                   whenever a state agency proposes an action within  
2                   the categories in subsection (a); or

3                   (B) The mayor, or the mayor's authorized  
4                   representative, of the respective county whenever  
5                   an action proposes only the use of county lands  
6                   or county funds.

7                   Acceptance of a required final statement shall be a  
8                   condition precedent to implementation of the proposed action.  
9                   Upon acceptance or nonacceptance of the final statement, the  
10                  governor or mayor, or the governor's or mayor's authorized  
11                  representative, shall file notice of [~~such~~] the determination  
12                  with the office. The office, in turn, shall publish the  
13                  determination of acceptance or nonacceptance pursuant to section  
14                  343-3.

15                  (c) Applicant action. Whenever an applicant proposes an  
16                  action specified by subsection (a) that requires discretionary  
17                  approval of an agency and that is not a specific type of action  
18                  declared exempt under section 343-6, the agency initially  
19                  receiving and agreeing to process the request for approval shall  
20                  prepare, or require the applicant to prepare, an environmental  
21                  assessment of the proposed action at the earliest practicable  
22                  time to determine whether an environmental impact statement





1 shall be required; provided that, for an action that proposes  
2 the establishment of a renewable energy facility, a draft  
3 environmental impact statement shall be prepared at the earliest  
4 practicable time. The final approving agency for the request  
5 for approval is not required to be the accepting authority.

6 For environmental assessments for which a finding of no  
7 significant impact is anticipated:

- 8 (1) A draft environmental assessment shall be made  
9 available for public review and comment for a period  
10 of thirty days;
- 11 (2) The office shall inform the public of the availability  
12 of the draft environmental assessment for public  
13 review and comment pursuant to section 343-3; and
- 14 (3) The applicant shall respond in writing to comments  
15 received during the review, and [~~the agency shall~~]  
16 prepare a final environmental assessment to determine  
17 whether an environmental impact statement shall be  
18 required. A statement shall be required if the agency  
19 finds that the proposed action may have a significant  
20 effect on the environment. The agency shall file  
21 notice of the agency's determination with the office,  
22 which, in turn, shall publish the agency's



1           determination for the public's information pursuant to  
2           section 343-3.

3           The draft and final statements, if required, shall be  
4 prepared by the applicant, who shall file these statements with  
5 the office.

6           The draft statement shall be made available for public  
7 review and comment through the office for a period of forty-five  
8 days. The office shall inform the public of the availability of  
9 the draft statement for public review and comment pursuant to  
10 section 343-3.

11          The applicant shall respond in writing to comments received  
12 during the review and prepare a final statement. The office,  
13 when requested by the applicant or agency, may make a  
14 recommendation as to the acceptability of the final statement.

15          The authority to accept a final statement shall rest with  
16 the agency initially receiving and agreeing to process the  
17 request for approval. The final decision-making body or  
18 approving agency for the request for approval is not required to  
19 be the accepting authority. The planning department for the  
20 county in which the proposed action will occur shall be a  
21 permissible accepting authority for the final statement.



1 Acceptance of a required final statement shall be a  
2 condition precedent to approval of the request and commencement  
3 of the proposed action. Upon acceptance or nonacceptance of the  
4 final statement, the agency shall file notice of [~~such~~] the  
5 determination with the office. The office, in turn, shall  
6 publish the determination of acceptance or nonacceptance of the  
7 final statement pursuant to section 343-3.

8 The agency receiving the request, within thirty days of  
9 receipt of the final statement, shall notify the applicant and  
10 the office of the acceptance or nonacceptance of the final  
11 statement. The final statement shall be deemed to be accepted  
12 if the agency fails to accept or not accept the final statement  
13 within thirty days after receipt of the final statement;  
14 provided that the thirty-day period may be extended at the  
15 request of the applicant for a period not to exceed fifteen  
16 days.

17 In any acceptance or nonacceptance, the agency shall  
18 provide the applicant with the specific findings and reasons for  
19 its determination. In making its determination, the accepting  
20 authority shall provide an explanation on how the document met  
21 the requirements of this chapter as a public disclosure  
22 document. An applicant, within sixty days after nonacceptance



1 of a final statement by an agency, may appeal the nonacceptance  
2 to the environmental council, which, within thirty days of  
3 receipt of the appeal, shall notify the applicant of the  
4 council's determination. In any affirmation or reversal of an  
5 appealed nonacceptance, the council shall provide the applicant  
6 and agency with specific findings and reasons for its  
7 determination. The agency shall abide by the council's  
8 decision.

9 (d) Whenever an applicant requests approval for a proposed  
10 action and there is a question as to which of two or more state  
11 or county agencies with jurisdiction has the responsibility of  
12 preparing the environmental assessment, the office, after  
13 consultation with and assistance from the affected state or  
14 county agencies, shall determine which agency shall prepare the  
15 assessment.

16 (e) In preparing an environmental assessment, an agency  
17 may consider and, where applicable and appropriate, incorporate  
18 by reference, in whole or in part, previous determinations of  
19 whether a statement is required and previously accepted  
20 statements. The council, by rule, shall establish criteria and  
21 procedures for the use of previous determinations and  
22 statements.



1 (f) Whenever an action is subject to both the National  
2 Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (Public Law 91-190) and the  
3 requirements of this chapter, the office and agencies shall  
4 cooperate with federal agencies to the fullest extent possible  
5 to reduce duplication between federal and state requirements.  
6 [~~Such~~] The cooperation, to the fullest extent possible, shall  
7 include joint environmental impact statements with concurrent  
8 public review and processing at both levels of government.

9 Where federal law has environmental impact statement  
10 requirements in addition to but not in conflict with this  
11 chapter, the office and agencies shall cooperate in fulfilling  
12 these requirements so that one document shall comply with all  
13 applicable laws.

14 (g) A statement that is accepted with respect to a  
15 particular action shall satisfy the requirements of this  
16 chapter, and no other statement for the proposed action shall be  
17 required.

18 (h) Whenever any agency or applicant action is determined  
19 to be significant by an agency or applicant prior to the  
20 preparation of an environmental assessment, the agency or  
21 applicant may proceed directly to the preparation of an



1 environmental impact statement, with the approval of the  
2 director."

3 4. By amending subsection 343-6(a) to read:

4 "(a) After consultation with the affected agencies, the  
5 council shall adopt, amend, or repeal necessary rules for the  
6 purposes of this chapter in accordance with chapter 91  
7 including, but not limited to, rules that shall:

8 (1) Prescribe the procedures whereby a group of proposed  
9 actions may be treated by a single environmental  
10 assessment or statement [+], including the  
11 consolidation of actions into a single environmental  
12 assessment or statement;

13 (2) Establish procedures whereby specific types of  
14 actions, because they will probably have minimal or no  
15 significant effects on the environment, are declared  
16 exempt from the preparation of an environmental  
17 assessment;

18 (3) Prescribe procedures for the preparation of an  
19 environmental assessment;

20 (4) Prescribe the contents of an environmental assessment;

21 (5) Prescribe procedures for informing the public of  
22 determinations that a statement is either required or



1 not required, for informing the public of the  
2 availability of draft environmental impact statements  
3 for review and comments, and for informing the public  
4 of the acceptance or nonacceptance of the final  
5 environmental statement;

6 (6) Prescribe the contents of an environmental impact  
7 statement;

8 (7) Prescribe procedures for the submission, distribution,  
9 review, acceptance or nonacceptance, and withdrawal of  
10 an environmental impact statement;

11 (8) Establish criteria to determine whether an  
12 environmental impact statement is acceptable or not;  
13 [and]

14 (9) Establish procedures for the acceptance of electronic  
15 comments and responses for environmental assessments  
16 and statements; and

17 [~~9~~] (10) Prescribe procedures to appeal the nonacceptance  
18 of an environmental impact statement to the  
19 environmental council."

20 SECTION 7. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of  
21 the department of health relating to the office of environmental



1 quality control and the environmental council are transferred to  
2 the office of the governor.

3 All officers and employees whose functions are transferred  
4 by this Act shall be transferred with their functions and shall  
5 continue to perform their regular duties upon their transfer,  
6 subject to the state personnel laws and this Act.

7 No officer or employee of the State having tenure shall  
8 suffer any loss of salary, seniority, prior service credit,  
9 vacation, sick leave, or other employee benefit or privilege as  
10 a consequence of this Act, and such officer or employee may be  
11 transferred or appointed to a civil service position without the  
12 necessity of examination; provided that the officer or employee  
13 possesses the minimum qualifications for the position to which  
14 transferred or appointed; and provided that subsequent changes  
15 in status may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and  
16 compensation laws.

17 An officer or employee of the State who does not have  
18 tenure and who may be transferred or appointed to a civil  
19 service position as a consequence of this Act shall become a  
20 civil service employee without the loss of salary, seniority,  
21 prior service credit, vacation, sick leave, or other employee  
22 benefits or privileges and without the necessity of examination;





1 provided that such officer or employee possesses the minimum  
2 qualifications for the position to which transferred or  
3 appointed.

4 If an office or position held by an officer or employee  
5 having tenure is abolished, the officer or employee shall not  
6 thereby be separated from public employment, but shall remain in  
7 the employment of the State with the same pay and classification  
8 and shall be transferred to some other office or position for  
9 which the officer or employee is eligible under the personnel  
10 laws of the State as determined by the head of the department or  
11 the governor.

12 SECTION 8. All appropriations, records, equipment,  
13 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,  
14 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,  
15 acquired, or held by the department of health relating to the  
16 functions transferred to the office of the governor shall be  
17 transferred with the functions to which they relate.

18 SECTION 9. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
19 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
20 begun before its effective date.

21 SECTION 10. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
22 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

2

INTRODUCED BY: Norman Sotomayor



**Report Title:**

Environmental Protection

**Description:**

Removes the university of Hawaii environmental center from the environmental quality control process; transfers the office of environmental quality control from the department of health to the office of the governor; revises the environmental review process to create an approach that is based primarily on land use decisions rather than individual projects.

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

