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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION COMMISSION.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 173A-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted  
3 and to read as follows:

4           "Commission" means the legacy land conservation  
5 commission."

6           SECTION 2. Section 173A-2.4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

8           "(a) There is established within the department of land  
9 and natural resources a legacy land conservation commission.

10 The commission shall consist of nine members, with at least one  
11 member from each of the counties, who shall be appointed in the  
12 manner and serve for the term set forth in section 26-34 as  
13 follows:

14           (1) Four of the members of the commission shall be persons  
15           possessing scientific qualifications as evidenced by  
16           an academic degree in wildlife or marine biology,

- 1 botany, forestry, ecology, resource management,  
2 biogeography, zoology, or geology;
- 3 (2) One member shall be a person possessing membership in  
4 an environmental organization organized in the State;
- 5 (3) One member shall be a person possessing membership in  
6 a land conservation organization organized in the  
7 State;
- 8 (4) One member shall be a person possessing membership in  
9 a statewide agricultural association; and
- 10 (5) One member shall be a person knowledgeable about  
11 native Hawaiian culture.

12 The chairperson of the natural area reserves system commission,  
13 or the chairperson's designated representative from the natural  
14 area reserves system commission, shall serve as an ex officio  
15 voting member [~~and the chairperson of the commission~~]. The  
16 members of the commission shall elect the chairperson of the  
17 commission. The members of the commission shall receive no  
18 compensation for their services on the commission but shall be  
19 entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses, including  
20 travel expenses, incurred in the discharge of their duties."

21 SECTION 3. Section 173A-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
22 amended to read as follows:

SB2738 SD1 PROPOSED.DOC  
\*SB2738 SD1 PROPOSED.DOC\*  
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1           "~~+~~§173A-2.5~~+~~   **Responsibilities of the legacy land**  
2 **conservation commission.** The responsibilities of the commission  
3 shall include, but not be limited to:

4           (1) Advising the department and the board on any proposal,  
5           public or private, for the acquisition of any interest  
6           or rights in land having value as a resource to the  
7           State;

8           (2) Advising the department and the board on any requests  
9           for grants from the fund to a qualifying state or  
10          county agency or nonprofit land conservation  
11          organization for the preservation of lands having  
12          value as a resource to the State;

13          (3) Advising the department and the board on any requests  
14          for grants from the fund to a qualifying state or  
15          county agency or nonprofit land conservation  
16          organization for the protection of the environment and  
17          lands from harmful invasive species infestations and  
18          any costs related to harmful invasive species  
19          eradication efforts throughout the State;

20          ~~+~~ (4) Recommending to the board the acquisition of  
21          interests or rights in certain lands having value as a  
22          resource to the State; and

1       ~~[(4)]~~ (5) Reviewing and adopting rules relating to the  
 2                   criteria it applies in advising the department and the  
 3                   board and making recommendations to the board  
 4                   regarding land acquisitions and grants made pursuant  
 5                   to this chapter."

6           SECTION 4. Section 173A-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 7 amended by amending subsection (h) to read as follows:

8           "(h) The fund shall be used for:

9           (1) The acquisition of interests or rights in land having  
 10           value as a resource to the State, whether in fee title  
 11           or through the establishment of permanent conservation  
 12           easements under chapter 198 or agricultural easements;

13          (2) The payment of any debt service on state financial  
 14           instruments relating to the acquisition of interests  
 15           or rights in land having value as a resource to the  
 16           State;

17          (3) Annual administration costs for the fund, not to  
 18           exceed five per cent of annual fund revenues of the  
 19           previous year~~[(; and)]~~;

20          (4) Costs related to the operation, maintenance, and  
 21           management of lands acquired by way of this fund that  
 22           are necessary to protect, maintain, or restore

1 resources at risk on these lands, or that provide for  
 2 greater public access and enjoyment of these lands;  
 3 provided that the costs related to the operation,  
 4 maintenance, and management of lands acquired by way  
 5 of this fund do not exceed five per cent of annual  
 6 fund revenues of the previous year[-]; and

7 (5) Costs related to the control and eradication of  
 8 harmful invasive species infestations throughout the  
 9 State and related efforts of the invasive species  
 10 council, established pursuant to section 194-2."

11 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
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**Report Title:**

Legacy Land Conservation Commission; Invasive Species

**Description:**

Authorizes the chairperson of the natural area reserves system commission to designate a representative from the natural area reserves system commission to serve on the legacy land conservation commission; authorizes the members of the legacy land conservation commission to elect their own chairperson; expands the responsibilities of the legacy land commission to include the protection of lands and the environment from harmful invasive species infestations and the costs related to infestation eradication; permits the land conservation fund to pay grants to state and county agencies for harmful invasive species prevention and eradication efforts. (SD1)

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