
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that pursuant to Hawaii's
2 constitution, statutes, and case law, the State recognizes a
3 mandate to protect native Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and
4 customary rights.

5 Certain state councils, boards, and commissions administer
6 public trust resources and programs that directly impact native
7 Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural
8 resource protection and access rights, and the public trust. As
9 entities of the State, these councils, boards, and commissions
10 have a duty to protect and preserve these rights, and a
11 fiduciary duty to administer the public trust in the interest of
12 the beneficiaries, including native Hawaiians and Hawaiians.
13 The legislature finds that newly appointed members of these
14 state councils, boards, and commissions represent a broad range
15 of expertise and experience and therefore may not possess, upon
16 their appointment, knowledge of native Hawaiian and Hawaiian
17 rights and the public trust that would enable them to execute
18 their roles, fully informed of their responsibilities.



1 Chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, indicates that the
2 office of Hawaiians affairs is the principal public agency
3 responsible for ensuring that other state agencies protect
4 native Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights. Section 10-1(b), Hawaii
5 Revised Statutes, specifies that:

6 It shall be the duty and responsibility of all state
7 departments and instrumentalities of state government
8 providing services and programs which affect native
9 Hawaiians and Hawaiians to actively work toward the goals
10 of this chapter and to cooperate with and assist wherever
11 possible the office of Hawaiian affairs.

12 Section 10-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, states that the
13 purposes of the office of Hawaiian affairs include:

- 14 (3) Serving as the principal public agency in this State
15 responsible for the performance, development, and
16 coordination of programs and activities relating to
17 native Hawaiians and Hawaiians; except that the
18 Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended, shall
19 be administered by the Hawaiian homes commission;
- 20 (4) Assessing the policies and practices of other agencies
21 impacting on native Hawaiians and Hawaiians, and

1 conducting advocacy efforts for native Hawaiians and
2 Hawaiians;

3 Therefore, the legislature finds that to prepare these
4 state appointees to fulfill their roles and responsibilities,
5 fully informed of their duties and obligations, these state
6 appointees should be provided with training.

7 The legislature further finds that the office of Hawaiian
8 affairs is the appropriate agency to train and educate the
9 members of appropriate councils, boards, and commissions about
10 native Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and customary rights,
11 natural resource protection and access rights, and the public
12 trust.

13 The purpose of this Act is to require members of
14 appropriate state councils, boards, and commissions to undergo
15 training conducted by the office of Hawaiian affairs on native
16 Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights, the source of these rights, and
17 how infringement of these rights impacts the native Hawaiian and
18 Hawaiian people.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
20 by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read
21 as follows:

22 "PART . REQUIRED TRAINING RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN

1 AND HAWAIIAN TRADITIONAL AND CUSTOMARY RIGHTS,
2 NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND HAWAIIAN NATURAL RESOURCE PROTECTION
3 AND ACCESS RIGHTS, AND THE STATE'S OBLIGATIONS
4 UNDER THE PUBLIC TRUST

5 §10-A Applicability of part. This part applies to members
6 of the land use commission, the board of land and natural
7 resources, the commission on water resource management, the
8 environmental council, the board of directors of the
9 agribusiness development corporation, the board of agriculture,
10 the legacy land conservation commission, the natural area
11 reserves system commission, the Hawaii historical places review
12 board, and the board of health. This part does not apply to any
13 other officer, representative, or employee of the State.

14 §10-B Mandatory training relating to native Hawaiian and
15 Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural resource
16 protection and access rights, and the public trust, including
17 the State's trust responsibility. (a) All council, board, and
18 commission members enumerated in section 10-A shall complete a
19 training course relating to native Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights
20 administered by the office of Hawaiian affairs within six months
21 of their official appointment date, as provided in this part.

1 (b) The office of Hawaiian affairs shall establish,
2 design, and facilitate a training course relating to native
3 Hawaiian and Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, native
4 Hawaiian and Hawaiian natural resource protection and access
5 rights, and the public trust, including the State's trust
6 responsibility, designed specifically for the council, board,
7 and commission members to whom this part applies.

8 (c) The training course shall include, but not be limited
9 to:

10 (1) Historical information, explanations, and discussions
11 of key state laws, state constitutional provisions,
12 and court rulings that reaffirm and provide for the
13 protection of native Hawaiian and Hawaiian rights; and

14 (2) A discussion of the importance of public trust
15 resources and various programs to native Hawaiian and
16 Hawaiian rights.

17 (d) The office of Hawaiian affairs shall:

18 (1) Develop the methods and prepare any materials
19 necessary to implement the training course;

20 (2) Administer the training course; and



Report Title:

Office of Hawaiian Affairs

Description:

Requires certain council, board, and commission members to take a training course offered by OHA relating to native Hawaiian traditional and customary rights, natural resource protection and access rights, and the public trust.

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

