

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL WORKFORCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the collapse of  
2 national credit, housing, financial, and other markets has  
3 culminated in the current national economic crisis, which  
4 continues to have consequences on the local economy, including  
5 significant losses in local construction, restaurant, and other  
6 industries. The legislature further finds that solutions for  
7 immediate relief will require unprecedented levels of  
8 cooperation between state and local government, and between  
9 public and private entities, and bold yet productive proposals.

10           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the  
11 establishment of an emergency environmental workforce for short-  
12 term employment for individuals who are unemployed or  
13 underemployed due to the slow economic recovery. Individuals  
14 willing to accept the challenge of an emergency environmental  
15 workforce job would assist the State's efforts to:

16           (1) Maintain and strengthen watersheds throughout the  
17           State;



- 1           (2) Eradicate the miconia plant, feral coffee trees, and
- 2                   other invasive plants; and
- 3           (3) Reduce coqui frog, coffee borer beetle, and fire ant
- 4                   populations.

5           The legislature intends for the revenues generated by  
6 general obligation bond authorizations and appropriations from  
7 the general fund made by this Act to be released only after  
8 approximately sixty-five per cent of the total appropriations  
9 from various funds made by this Act have been released. The  
10 legislature further intends for the director of finance to have  
11 the discretion to determine when approximately sixty-five per  
12 cent of the special and other fund appropriations have been made  
13 in a manner that fulfills the purpose of this Act.

14           SECTION 2. There is established the emergency  
15 environmental workforce to be attached to the research  
16 corporation of the University of Hawaii for administrative  
17 purposes. The emergency environmental workforce shall:

- 18           (1) Employ approximately five hundred to seven hundred
- 19                   fifty individuals who were terminated from their job
- 20                   as a result of the local economic downturn. The
- 21                   individuals shall be employed as six-month contract
- 22                   employees;



- 1           (2) Supplement the State's current services being provided
- 2           for the eradication of the miconia plant and other
- 3           invasive plants, and the reduction of coqui frog,
- 4           coffee borer beetle, and fire ant populations; and
- 5           (3) Coordinate its efforts with the efforts of the
- 6           department of agriculture, the department of land and
- 7           natural resources, and the invasive species committee
- 8           of each county.

9           SECTION 3. The research corporation of the University of  
10 Hawaii shall:

- 11           (1) Together with the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit,
- 12           develop a planning, administration, implementation,
- 13           and evaluation strategy, including a program duration
- 14           plan and a budget for contract and administrative
- 15           expenses for the sum appropriated;
- 16           (2) Develop a recruitment and public information plan, in
- 17           consultation with private employers with workforces
- 18           that have been, or that may be, affected by layoffs
- 19           resulting from the economic downturn;
- 20           (3) Develop a strategy for the interviewing and selection
- 21           of emergency environmental workforce program
- 22           participants, including physical examinations as



- 1           necessary to qualify applicants prior to final  
2           contract offers;
- 3           (4) Request that attorneys employed or retained by the  
4           University of Hawaii prepare, on an expedited basis,  
5           the necessary employment contracts to meet the  
6           objectives of the emergency environmental workforce  
7           program;
- 8           (5) Submit review and assessment reports to the governor,  
9           the senate president, and the speaker of the house of  
10          representatives every sixty days for the duration of  
11          the emergency environmental workforce program; and
- 12          (6) Undertake all other necessary activities for emergency  
13          environmental workforce program development and  
14          implementation.

15          SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the special land  
16          and development fund the sum of \$1,400,000 or so much thereof as  
17          may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment  
18          of an emergency environmental workforce to be administered by  
19          the research corporation of the University of Hawaii.

20          The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
21          corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this



1 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
2 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

3 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the forest and  
4 wildlife resources fund within the special land and development  
5 fund the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary  
6 for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment of an emergency  
7 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
8 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
10 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
11 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
12 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

13 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the land  
14 conservation fund the sum of \$2,250,000 or so much thereof as  
15 may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment  
16 of an emergency environmental workforce to be administered by  
17 the research corporation of the University of Hawaii.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
19 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
20 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
21 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.



1 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the water resource  
2 management fund the sum of \$300,000 or so much thereof as may be  
3 necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment of an  
4 emergency environmental workforce to be administered by the  
5 research corporation of the University of Hawaii.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
7 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
8 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
9 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

10 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the natural area  
11 reserve fund the sum of \$1,400,000 or so much thereof as may be  
12 necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment of an  
13 emergency environmental workforce to be administered by the  
14 research corporation of the University of Hawaii.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
16 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
17 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
18 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

19 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the forest  
20 stewardship fund the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may  
21 be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the establishment of



1 an emergency environmental workforce to be administered by the  
2 research corporation of the University of Hawaii.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
4 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
5 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
6 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

7 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the pest  
8 inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund the sum of  
9 \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
10 year 2012-2013 for the establishment of an emergency  
11 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
12 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
14 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
15 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
16 approval of the Pacific Cooperative Studies Unit.

17 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to carry  
20 out the purposes of this Act.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
22 corporation of the University of Hawaii; provided that no moneys



1 shall be expended without the prior approval of the Pacific  
2 Cooperative Studies Unit.

3 SECTION 12. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
4 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
6 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2012-2013  
7 for the emergency environmental workforce to:

- 8 (1) Fence lands and easements in the state conservation  
9 district to protect watershed lands; and
- 10 (2) Mitigate invasive species.

11 The appropriation made for the capital improvement projects  
12 authorized by this section shall not lapse at the end of the  
13 fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is made; provided  
14 that all moneys from the appropriation unencumbered as of June  
15 30, 2014, shall lapse as of that date.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
17 corporation of the University of Hawaii; provided that no moneys  
18 shall be expended without the prior approval of the Pacific  
19 Cooperative Studies Unit.

20 SECTION 13. The moneys appropriated from the general fund  
21 by section 11 of this Act and the revenues derived from the  
22 general obligation bonds authorized by section 12 of this Act





1 shall be released and expended only when approximately sixty-  
 2 five per cent of the moneys appropriated from funds by sections  
 3 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of this Act have been authorized for  
 4 expenditure by the director of finance. For the purpose of  
 5 determining the monetary amount that approximates sixty-five per  
 6 cent of the moneys appropriated and allotted under sections 4,  
 7 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10, the director of finance may aggregate the  
 8 amounts authorized for expenditure from those funds.

9 SECTION 14. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10

INTRODUCED BY:

*John M. ...*  
*Karen ...*  
*Hal ...*  
*Gie ...*  
*Paul ...*  
*Sally ...*  
*Linda ...*

*John ...*  
*Calvin ...*  
*Rand ...*  
*James ...*  
*Marilyn B. Lee*  
*R.T. ...*  
*James ...*  
*Jim ...*

F. F. Antonilla

[Signature]

[Signature]

D.C. [Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

Cindy Evans

[Signature]

[Signature]

Denny Coffey

Tom Burr



# H.B. NO. 2250

**Report Title:**

Environmental Workforce; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the emergency environmental workforce. Makes appropriations.

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

