
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ACQUISITION OF RESOURCE VALUE LANDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Lipoa Point-Honolua
2 is one of the most iconic landmarks in Hawaii. Honolua is rich
3 in marine resources and historical and archaeological sites, and
4 is one of the most popular recreational areas for locals and
5 tourists alike, offering some of the best snorkeling and surfing
6 conditions on the island of Maui. Nationally recognized as a
7 marine preserve, it has attracted federal funding and programs
8 for having some of the highest fish assemblage characteristics
9 of all the Hawaiian islands. Additionally, Honolua is
10 considered to have one of the most diverse, unique, and abundant
11 reef formations, providing habitat for rare coral species.

12 Historically, not only is Honolua Bay significant for
13 Hawaiian canoe voyaging as being the departure point for the
14 Hōkūle‘a maiden voyage in 1976, it is also the site of several
15 archaeological finds that were identified by Bishop Museum staff
16 in 1974, including two heiau, boulders with grinding surfaces,
17 house platforms, burial mounds, and agriculture terraces.



1 The legislature further finds that, due to its iconic
2 reputation, Honolua Bay has drawn countless visitors to Hawaii,
3 which helps generate revenue by bolstering the State's important
4 tourist industry. Honolua is known worldwide as a premier
5 winter session, big wave surf spot, a sector of the surfing
6 industry that is currently eclipsing the Association of Surfing
7 Professionals World Championship Tour.

8 The legislature finds, however, that recent contemplation
9 of zoning changes to the area have jeopardized the pension
10 benefits for numerous retirees, as the parcel was pledged
11 against a pension fund established by the retirees' former
12 employer in order to make sure that kupuna would continue to
13 receive the benefits that they worked for. If this pension fund
14 should fail, many of the pensioners would have to turn to state
15 services and programs, thereby straining the social safety net,
16 especially in an area where resources are already scarce.

17 The legislature further finds that acquiring this land for
18 preservation would help protect the area's pristine condition
19 while providing funds to ensure the adequate capitalization of
20 the pension fund. The legislature also finds that the owners of
21 the land have pledged that any revenues derived from the sale of
22 this parcel would be pledged completely against the pension



1 fund, thereby alleviating concerns of the social safety net
2 being stretched even further.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
4 land and natural resources to engage in efforts to acquire the
5 parcel of land located at Lipoa Point. It is the legislature's
6 intent that the department explore options to protect and
7 preserve the area's pristine condition, while ensuring the
8 adequate capitalization of the pension fund against which the
9 parcel was pledged.

10 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding approval by the board of land
11 and natural resources pursuant to section 173A-5(i), Hawaii
12 Revised Statutes, the department of land and natural resources,
13 in consultation with the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust, shall
14 engage in efforts to acquire the parcel of land located at Lipoa
15 Point, identified as TMK 2-4-1-001-010-0000.

16 SECTION 3. To the maximum extent possible, the department
17 of land and natural resources shall ensure that the seller of
18 the land identified in section 2 of this Act uses the proceeds
19 of the sale to benefit the pension plan of retirees of the Maui
20 Land and Pineapple Company, Inc.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

DLNR; Lipoa Point; Land Acquisition

Description:

Requires DLNR, in consultation with the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust and notwithstanding board approval, to engage in efforts to acquire the parcel of land located at Lipoa Point, identified as TMK 2-4-1-001-010-0000. Requires the DLNR to ensure to the maximum extent possible that the seller of the land uses the proceeds of the sale to benefit the pension plan of retirees of the Maui Land and Pineapple Company, Inc. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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