
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Pacific islands
2 region is experiencing dangerous climate change. Currently, the
3 most vulnerable areas include human and natural communities in
4 low islands, nearshore and coastal areas, and coral reefs. Some
5 of the most imminent and alarming concerns include:

6 (1) Freshwater supplies that will be more limited on many
7 Pacific islands as the quantity and quality of water
8 in aquifers and surface catchments change in response
9 to warmer, drier conditions coupled with increased
10 occurrences of saltwater intrusion;

11 (2) Rising sea levels that will increase the likelihood of
12 coastal flooding and erosion, damaging coastal
13 infrastructure and agriculture, negatively impacting
14 tourism, reducing habitat for endangered species, and
15 threatening shallow reef systems; and

16 (3) Higher sea-surface temperatures that will increase
17 coral bleaching, leading to a change in coral species



1 composition, coral disease, coral death, and habitat
2 loss.

3 The legislature also finds that some of these changes to
4 the environment are now unavoidable and require some degree of
5 planning and adaptation. However, some of these changes can
6 still be greatly mitigated, if not prevented altogether, but
7 innovation, collaboration, and hard work are required. A
8 comprehensive evaluation of the effectiveness of alternative
9 adaptation strategies is needed to refine planning and
10 management decisions.

11 The purpose of this Act is to require the lieutenant
12 governor to convene and chair a climate change roundtable to
13 enhance the State's resilience to the myriad changes already
14 occurring and those yet to come.

15 SECTION 2. Section 26-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

17 "(d) In addition to the functions and duties provided by
18 law, the lieutenant governor shall [~~assume~~]:

19 (1) Assume administrative responsibility for the office of
20 information practices [~~-~~]; and

21 (2) Convene and chair a climate change roundtable."



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
5 year 2014-2015 to do all things necessary in convening the
6 climate change roundtable, including hiring administrative
7 staff.

8 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of
9 the lieutenant governor for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

13

INTRODUCED BY: *Guthrie Thiele*

JAN 23 2013



H.B. NO. 1058

Report Title:

Office of the Lieutenant Governor; Climate Change Roundtable;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the lieutenant governor to convene and chair a climate change roundtable. Makes an appropriation.

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

