
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL HEMP.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that phytoremediation is
2 the environmentally-friendly science of using plants and trees
3 to remove toxins in the soil, such as metals, pesticides,
4 solvents, explosives, and crude oil. These toxins can be
5 reduced by planting specific plants and trees, called hyper-
6 accumulators, in polluted areas. Specifically, these plants and
7 trees draw in the toxins, along with beneficial nutrients,
8 through their roots as nourishment and concentrate them in their
9 stems, shoots, and leaves, which can then be harvested and
10 disposed of safely. The nutrient uptake process leaves a clean,
11 balanced, and nutrient rich soil, which can then be safely used
12 for agriculture or improving conservation habitats.

13 The legislature also finds that hemp is a superior
14 phytoremediator because it grows quickly and can extract toxins
15 without the need to remove any of the contaminated topsoil.
16 Other factors that make hemp a superior phytoremediator is its
17 ability to grow unaffected by the toxins it accumulates, its
18 fast rate of absorption, and its ability to bind compound



1 contaminants from the air and the soil. A factor that makes the
2 State a particularly compelling candidate for hemp-based
3 phytoremediation is that the State's extensive agricultural
4 operations in the past have left toxins in vast tracts of land.
5 Phytoremediation will remove those toxins.

6 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the chairperson of
7 the board of agriculture to establish a two-year industrial hemp
8 remediation pilot program.

9 SECTION 2. (a) The chairperson of the board of
10 agriculture is authorized to establish the two-year industrial
11 hemp remediation pilot program; provided that the United States
12 Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration, issues
13 the chairperson a federally-controlled substance registration
14 for the remediation pilot program. Through the pilot program,
15 the chairperson may determine how soils and water may be made
16 more pristine and healthy by phytoremediation, removal of
17 contaminants, and rejuvenation through the growth of industrial
18 hemp. The chairperson may choose a secure, indoor growing site
19 for the pilot program.

20 (b) The chairperson may submit a final report, including
21 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than



1 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
2 2015 on the following:

- 3 (1) The rate of contamination uptake from soil and water;
 - 4 (2) The mode of efficient uptake from soil and water;
 - 5 (3) The rate of carbon fixation in the Calvin cycle;
 - 6 (4) The locations in the roots, stems, leaves, and flowers
7 of the plants at which contaminants are fixated;
 - 8 (5) What contaminants are stabilized in the plants;
 - 9 (6) What contaminants on the site need additional
10 treatment in order to make the soil or water healthy
11 and pristine;
 - 12 (7) What disposal method is best for the different
13 contaminants, including petrification, encasement,
14 incineration, burial, and composting;
 - 15 (8) A baseline for plants cultivated in a clean soil; and
 - 16 (9) Any other data deemed important by the chairperson.
- 17 (c) The chairperson may adopt rules to implement and set
18 standards of participation for this pilot program.

19 SECTION 3. No person shall be subject to any civil or
20 criminal sanctions in this State for growing or possessing
21 industrial hemp; provided that the person's growing or
22 possessing of industrial hemp is part of the individual's



1 participation in the two-year industrial hemp remediation pilot
2 program and the person's participation is in full compliance
3 with the requirements of the program.

4 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
8 year 2014-2015 for the two-year industrial hemp remediation
9 pilot program.

10 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
11 of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050, and
13 shall be repealed on July 1, 2015.



Report Title:

Two-Year Industrial Hemp Remediation Pilot Program

Description:

Authorizes the Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture to establish a two-year industrial hemp remediation pilot program. Appropriates funds. Effective July 1, 2050. (HB154 HD1)

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