

JAN 24 2013

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PARKS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. **Transfer of state parks to county control;**
2 **feasibility; advisory task force.** (a) There is established
3 within the department of land and natural resources for
4 administrative purposes a temporary advisory task force to
5 develop an action plan for the transfer of all state parks,
6 together with all state park functions and funds, to the
7 counties. The department of land and natural resources shall
8 convene the task force no later than October 1, 2013.
- 9 (b) The advisory task force shall be composed of:
- 10 (1) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
11 resources, or a designee, who shall serve as the
12 chairperson of the task force;
- 13 (2) The four county directors having jurisdiction over
14 parks and recreation, or their designees;
- 15 (3) One park user appointed by the governor;
- 16 (4) The chairperson of the house of representatives
17 standing committee having jurisdiction over



1 intergovernmental affairs, or a designee appointed by
2 the speaker of the house of representatives; and

3 (5) The chairperson of the senate standing committee
4 having jurisdiction over intergovernmental affairs, or
5 a designee appointed by the president of the senate.

6 (c) In carrying out its duties under this section, the
7 advisory task force may request staff assistance from the
8 department of land and natural resources and other appropriate
9 state and county executive agencies.

10 (d) The members of the advisory task force shall serve
11 without compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses
12 necessary for the performance of their duties, including travel
13 expenses.

14 (e) The advisory task force shall have the following
15 functions and duties:

16 (1) Develop an action plan to transfer the functions and
17 funding relating to the state parks to the counties;

18 (2) Develop a timetable for the proposed transfer that
19 would be the most cost-effective for both the State
20 and counties, and that would provide the least
21 disruption of services to the public users;



- 1 (3) Include all relevant appropriations for specific parks
2 projects that would be affected by the proposed
3 transfer to the counties;
- 4 (4) Include all relevant contracts relating to state parks
5 that would be affected by the proposed transfer to the
6 counties;
- 7 (5) Include all relevant federal and state funds and
8 assess how the proposed transfer to the counties would
9 affect each funding source;
- 10 (6) Make recommendations, as appropriate, regarding the
11 enactment of any county ordinances or policies that
12 would be necessary to:
 - 13 (A) Provide for protection of the natural environment
14 for parks that were formerly in the state land
15 use conservation district;
 - 16 (B) Ensure preservation of historical and cultural
17 sites;
 - 18 (C) Continue to provide community recreation and
19 education activities, as appropriate, at
20 transferred parks;



- 1 (D) Continue to provide for park repair and
- 2 maintenance without an increase in cost to the
- 3 public;
- 4 (E) Ensure that the county will be able to comply
- 5 with federal statutes and grant conditions as
- 6 appropriate;
- 7 (F) Ensure that public safety is maintained in all
- 8 parks transferred to the counties; and
- 9 (G) Maintain or improve responsiveness to park user
- 10 and customer concerns, particularly those of
- 11 residents and visitors using beach parks and
- 12 wilderness areas;
- 13 (7) Consider all relevant state statutes and county
- 14 ordinances relating to state and county parks and
- 15 related areas for possible amendment; and
- 16 (8) Consider any other relevant issues necessary to ensure
- 17 a timely and efficient transfer of responsibility of
- 18 the state park system under chapter 184, Hawaii
- 19 Revised Statutes, to the counties.

20 SECTION 2. The chairperson of the board of land and
21 natural resources shall submit a report, including
22 recommendations and implementing legislation from the advisory



1 task force, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
2 to the convening of the 2014 regular session.

3 SECTION 3. The advisory task force shall be dissolved on
4 June 30, 2014.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY: *James Overholser*



S.B. NO. 1297

Report Title:

Parks; Public Lands; Counties; DLNR; Advisory Task Force

Description:

Creates an advisory task force to develop an action plan for the transfer of jurisdiction over state parks from the department of land and natural resources to the counties; requires a report of recommendations and implementing legislation to be submitted to the legislature before the 2014 regular session.

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

