

S .B. NO. 2856

JAN 23 2014

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE REVOLVING FUND.

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

1 SECTION 1. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,600,000.00 or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 to
4 support environmental health activities and programs.

5 SECTION 2. The sum appropriated shall be deposited in the
6 environmental response revolving fund, established under section
7 128D-2, to be used for response actions and preparedness,
8 including removal and remedial actions, consistent with chapter
9 128D. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department
10 of health for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act, upon its approval, shall take effect
12 on July 1, 2014.

13
14 INTRODUCED BY:



15 BY REQUEST
16

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Report Title:

Environmental Response Revolving Fund

Description:

Appropriates funds for environmental health programs through the environmental response revolving fund.

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

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JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Health

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE REVOLVING FUND.

PURPOSE: The purposes of this Act is to appropriate funds to the Environmental Response Revolving Fund.

MEANS: General fund appropriation.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Health (DOH) receives five cents from the \$1.05 tax levied on barrels of crude oil imported into the State. The five cents are deposited into the Emergency Response Revolving Fund (ERRF) that supports oil spill response and environmental clean ups which protects Hawaii's beaches from oil pollution and protects Hawaii's visitors and residents from chemical contamination.

The ERRF fund balance is dangerously low due to reduced consumption of crude oil, while demand for hazard evaluation and response has increased in recent years due to events like the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, Honolulu Harbor molasses spill, and several ground soil contaminations. Without adequate capitalization, DOH will begin to layoff program staff as early as 2015.

A one-time appropriation of general funds will bridge the funding gap to meet the needs of the immediate future.

Impact on the public: Ongoing 24-hour response capability by the State for environmental hazards.

Impact on the department and other agencies: None.

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GENERAL FUND: \$2,600,000.00.

OTHER FUNDS: Emergency Response Revolving Fund.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: HTH-849.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014.