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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION  
MANAGEMENT OFFICE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the quality of the  
2 environment is as important to the welfare of the people of  
3 Hawaii as is the economy of the State. The legislature finds  
4 that there is increasing demand for the collection and  
5 dissemination of state environmental data to the public, to the  
6 regulated and permitted community, and to the United States  
7 Environmental Protection Agency. The legislature also finds  
8 that the development of specialized environmental information  
9 management systems can greatly assist the department of health's  
10 environmental health administration to provide timely and  
11 comprehensive environmental information to the public, increase  
12 efficiency, and make more informed decisions to better protect  
13 the environment. The legislature finds that an environmental  
14 information management office needs to be established to more  
15 efficiently and effectively collect and disseminate  
16 environmental data. This in turn will greatly assist the  
17 environmental programs to make better decisions through the



1 development of enhanced software programs. In order to maintain  
2 current successful software systems, as well as continue to  
3 develop new ones, the legislature finds that the environmental  
4 information management office should be created in the  
5 department of health.

6 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
7 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read  
8 as follows:

9 **"CHAPTER**

10 **ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT OFFICE**

11 § -1 **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the  
12 context otherwise requires:

13 "Department" means the department of health.

14 "Director" means the director of health.

15 "Manager" means the manager of the environmental  
16 information management office.

17 "Office" means the environmental information management  
18 office established in section -2.

19 § -2 **Environmental information management office;**  
20 **establishment.** There is established an environmental  
21 information management office that shall be headed by a single  
22 executive to be known as the manager of environmental



1 information management who shall be appointed by the director  
2 without regard to chapter 76. The manager may hire staff, as  
3 may be necessary, without regard to chapter 76. The office  
4 shall implement this chapter and shall be placed within the  
5 department of health. The office shall perform its duties under  
6 this chapter and shall serve the director in an advisory  
7 capacity on all matters relating to environmental information  
8 management.

9 § -3 **Duties.** The office shall:

- 10 (1) Promote the use of environmental information systems  
11 and new management innovations such as mobile  
12 applications that enable efficient and non-duplicative  
13 collection and dissemination of environmental data for  
14 the department's environmental programs, the  
15 department, the State, and the public;
- 16 (2) Provide effective project management to design,  
17 develop, and implement useful and relevant  
18 environmental information management systems;
- 19 (3) Develop and implement environmental information  
20 management policy, in accordance with policy set by  
21 the chief information officer, the department, and the



- 1 United States Environmental Protection Agency for  
2 environmental health programs within the department;
- 3 (4) Seek partnerships and funding opportunities with  
4 outside entities to develop and collaborate on new  
5 environmental information management systems and to  
6 enhance current environmental information management  
7 systems; and
- 8 (5) Promote the federal impetus for environmental programs  
9 to reduce the burden of regulatory reporting  
10 processes, increase efficiencies in data reporting and  
11 accessibility, and facilitate effective coordination  
12 of environmental regulatory data functions."

13 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Environmental Information Management Office

**Description:**

Establishes an office of environmental information management within the department of health. Effective 7/01/2050. (SD1)

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

