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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DISPOSITION OF LANDS IN WAIPIO VALLEY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Waipio valley in the  
2 district of Hamakua, island of Hawaii, possesses cultural,  
3 historic, and natural resources that are of high value to the  
4 State. These resources are central to the historic, cultural,  
5 and natural identity of the State of Hawaii, and protection and  
6 management of these resources will benefit the people of Hawaii.

7           The legislature further finds that the acquisition of  
8 privately owned lands or interests in lands in Waipio valley  
9 would enhance public access to and permanent protection of these  
10 resources. The legislature also finds that active management of  
11 the resources in Waipio valley is necessary to protect them  
12 against overuse, invasive species, and other threats to their  
13 continued existence.

14           The department of land and natural resources is considering  
15 a purchase of land located in Waipio valley from the Bernice  
16 Pauahi Bishop Museum.

17           The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
18 land and natural resources to establish a temporary working



1 group to develop an action plan to preserve natural, cultural,  
2 and historic resources in Waipio valley, and to make an  
3 appropriation for the purchase of land located in Waipio valley.

4 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources  
5 shall establish a working group to investigate possibilities for  
6 partnerships to acquire lands in Waipio valley. The working  
7 group shall consist of the following members; provided that  
8 private parties are willing to participate:

- 9 (1) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian  
10 affairs or the chief executive officer's designee;
- 11 (2) The executive officer of the agribusiness development  
12 corporation or the executive officer's designee;
- 13 (3) The mayor of the county of Hawaii or the mayor's  
14 designee;
- 15 (4) The president of the Waipio Taro Farmers Association  
16 or the president's designee;
- 17 (5) The executive director of the Hawaiian Islands Land  
18 Trust or the executive director's designee;
- 19 (6) The chief executive officer of Kamehameha Schools or  
20 the chief executive officer's designee;
- 21 (7) The director of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum or  
22 the director's designee;



- 1 (8) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
- 2 resources or the chairperson's designee;
- 3 (9) One landowner in Waipio valley, to be selected by the
- 4 chairperson of the board of land and natural
- 5 resources; and
- 6 (10) Any other parties that the group deems necessary.

7 SECTION 3. The chief executive officer of Kamehameha  
8 Schools or the chief executive officer's designee, if willing,  
9 shall chair the working group. If the chief executive officer  
10 of Kamehameha Schools or the chief executive officer's designee  
11 is not willing to lead the working group, the chairperson of the  
12 board of land and natural resources shall chair the working  
13 group.

14 SECTION 4. The working group shall:

- 15 (1) Develop an action plan that explores and identifies
- 16 important natural, cultural, and historic resources
- 17 for protection at Waipio valley and identifies
- 18 conservation options for the protection of these
- 19 resources; and
- 20 (2) Submit a written final action plan, including
- 21 recommendations and any proposed legislation, to the



1 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
2 convening of the regular session of 2015.

3 SECTION 5. The working group shall cease to exist upon  
4 submission of the report to the legislature.

5 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for  
8 the purchase of land located in Waipio valley.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
10 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.



**Report Title:**

Waipio Valley; DLNR; Appropriation; Working Group

**Description:**

Establishes a temporary working group to study and make recommendations for the preservation of natural, cultural, and historic resources in Waipio valley. Makes an appropriation for the purchase of land in Waipio valley. (SD1)

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