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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is detrimental to  
2 the health, safety, and economy of local communities and the  
3 rights of real property owners if the owner of vacant or  
4 unoccupied residential real property cannot be readily contacted  
5 in the case of an emergency.

6           The purpose of this Act is to establish a vacant or  
7 unoccupied residential property registration program in each  
8 county that requires the owner of vacant or unoccupied  
9 residential property or owner's agent to register the property  
10 with the county police department in the county where the  
11 property is located.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
13 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
14 read as follows:

15           "§46-    Vacant or unoccupied residential property  
16 registration program; law enforcement. (a) There is



1 established in each county a vacant or unoccupied residential  
2 property registration program.

3 (b) Within thirty days of residential property becoming  
4 vacant or unoccupied, the owner or owner's agent shall register  
5 the property with the county police department in the county  
6 where the property is located and complete and submit a  
7 notarized registration form that includes the following:

8 (1) The owner's or owner's agent's name, address,  
9 telephone, and email address;

10 (2) A statement that at the time of obtaining ownership of  
11 the property, no person was occupying the property and  
12 no ownership interest or right of possession in the  
13 property has since been conveyed or transferred to any  
14 other person or entity; the property is vacant and is  
15 not authorized to be occupied by any person; and no  
16 person is authorized to reside on the property;

17 (3) A copy of the deed that shows ownership in the  
18 property; and

19 (4) The signature of the owner or owner's agent and the  
20 date.



1 (c) Within seven days of the vacant or unoccupied property  
2 becoming occupied with the owner's or owner's agent's knowledge  
3 and consent, the owner or owner's agent shall notify the county  
4 police department where the registration was filed.

5 (d) Upon the owner or the owner's agent verifying that an  
6 unauthorized person is on the registered property, the owner or  
7 owner's agent shall notify the county police department where  
8 the registration was filed and the police shall:

9 (1) Verify that the property has been properly registered  
10 as being vacant or unoccupied pursuant to subsection  
11 (a) and is not authorized to be occupied by any  
12 person; and

13 (2) Identify any unauthorized person found on the  
14 registered property and require the person to provide  
15 written authorization or other evidence that the  
16 person has a right to occupy the registered property;  
17 provided that a person who does not produce sufficient  
18 evidence shall be informed that the owner or owner's  
19 agent may bring a cause of action against the person."

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 as a  
2 grant-in-aid to each county for the establishment of a vacant or  
3 unoccupied residential property registration program, to be  
4 allocated as follows:

- 5       \$                   to the city and county of Honolulu;
- 6       \$                   to the county of Maui;
- 7       \$                   to the county of Hawaii; and
- 8       \$                   to the county of Kauai.

9       The sum appropriated shall be expended by each county for  
10 the purposes of this Act.

11       SECTION 4.   New statutory material is underscored.

12       SECTION 5.   This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY: Tom B

Walter A. Bellotti

Scott Brown

Lyn De Coite

[Signature]

[Signature]

JAN 26 2016



# H.B. NO. 2521

**Report Title:**

Vacant or Unoccupied Real Property Program; Registration; Law Enforcement; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds as a grant-in-aid to each county for the establishment of a vacant or unoccupied residential property registration program in each county that requires the owner of vacant or unoccupied residential property or owner's agent to register the property with the county police department in the county where the property is located.

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

