
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "CHAPTER
5 STATE EMPLOYEE AIR TRAVEL CARBON OFFSETS PROGRAM

6 § -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:

7 "Agency" means an internal division of a branch of state
8 government, such as a department, division, branch, agency,
9 program, or office, and includes the judiciary and the office of
10 Hawaiian affairs.

11 "Carbon offset" means a compensatory measure made by an
12 individual or entity for carbon emissions, which may include the
13 causing of projects that increase the absorption of carbon
14 dioxide.

15 "Employee" means an employee of the State, including all
16 permanent employees of the executive, judicial, and legislative
17 branches. The term also includes legislative session staff.



1 § -2 State employee air travel carbon offsets program.

2 (a) The governor, the president of the senate and the speaker
3 of the house of representatives, the chief justice, and the
4 chairperson of the office of Hawaiian affairs shall implement a
5 program in their respective branches of state government to
6 require all agencies to participate in a carbon offset program
7 established and administered by the department of land and
8 natural resources to offset carbon emissions caused by air
9 travel undertaken by an employee of the agency in performance of
10 the employee's official duties. The cost of the offset shall be
11 paid to the department of land and natural resources by the
12 agency for their respective employees on a per trip basis at a
13 rate determined by the department.

14 (b) The department of land and natural resources shall
15 establish and administer a carbon offset program that includes
16 the planting of trees endemic to Hawaii, including but not
17 limited to sandalwood varieties such as Iliahi, Laauala,
18 Wahieala, Aoa, and Aahi. The department may adopt rules
19 pursuant to chapter 91 to effectuate the purposes of this
20 chapter."

21 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



Report Title:

State Employees; Air Travel; DLNR; Carbon Offset Program

Description:

Requires state agencies to participate in a carbon offset program to offset carbon emissions caused by their employees' air travel. Requires DLNR to establish and administer a carbon offset program. (HB2558 HD1)

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