
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that because construction
2 projects in coastal areas are environmentally precarious, it is
3 essential to take impacts related to projected sea level rise
4 into account during the planning stage in order to protect
5 current infrastructure investments over time.

6 The purpose of this Act is to make the impact of sea level
7 rise a consideration in any environmental assessment or
8 environmental impact statement for a major capital improvement
9 project of the State or counties that is proposed on any special
10 management lands.

11 SECTION 2. (a) Beginning July, 1, 2016, whenever any
12 major infrastructure improvement project or major construction
13 project of the State or a county, including new or major
14 modification, is proposed on any special management lands, as
15 defined in section 205A-22, Hawaii Revised Statutes, any
16 environmental assessment or environmental impact statement
17 required pursuant to chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes, may
18 include an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea



1 level rise over the anticipated lifespan of the project. The
2 detailed analysis shall include a detailed scientifically-based
3 methodology for evaluation of the project based on the best
4 available information.

5 (b) For purposes of this section, the office of
6 environmental quality control shall work with the Hawaii coastal
7 zone management program and relevant state agencies to provide
8 guidance documents concerning ecological and environmental
9 problems related to the development of the coastal zone
10 management area, as defined in section 205A-1, Hawaii Revised
11 Statutes.

12 (c) As used in this section, "major" means any project
13 having an anticipated estimated value equal to or exceeding
14 \$3,000,000.

15 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that
16 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were
17 begun before its effective date.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

Special Management Lands; Environmental Assessment;
Environmental Impact Statements

Description:

Provides that major capital improvement projects of the State or a county involving an infrastructure improvement project or construction project may include in the environmental assessments and environmental impact statements an analysis of the environmental impact of projected sea level rise over the anticipated lifespan of the project. (SD1)

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