

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A WATER IRRIGATION PILOT PROJECT.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established a one-year irrigation  
2 water conservation best management practices pilot program,  
3 under which the department of accounting and general services,  
4 department of transportation, and department of land and natural  
5 resources shall implement irrigation water conservation best  
6 management practices, as established by the Landscape Industry  
7 Council of Hawaii, to improve the efficiency of all existing and  
8 new landscape irrigation installations, in the area of Kapolei,  
9 Oahu, through low cost, practical measures. Irrigation water  
10 conservation best management practices shall include:

- 11           (1) Best management practices for maintenance; and  
12           (2) Best management practices for new installations or  
13           major renovations.

14           (b) As used in this section:

15           "Best management practices for maintenance" includes the  
16 use of:



- 1 (1) Seasonal timing adjustments to irrigation controller  
2 systems;
- 3 (2) Aeration of lawns when compaction increases, and short  
4 run-time cycle irrigation in areas where runoff and  
5 ponding occur;
- 6 (3) Irrigation controllers programmed for long run times  
7 to water as deeply, evenly, and infrequently as  
8 possible to encourage deep rooting and increased  
9 drought resistance;
- 10 (4) Mulch, organic matter in soils, and drought-tolerant  
11 plants or plants that are naturally occurring at the  
12 site and surroundings;
- 13 (5) The practice of allowing grass to grow taller to  
14 conserve water; and
- 15 (6) Water schedule systems that run water at night;  
16 provided that best management practices for maintenance may also  
17 include periodic practical water audits to review the system  
18 components and verify that the components meet the original  
19 design criteria for the efficient operation and uniform  
20 distribution of water.

21 "Best management practices for new installations or major  
22 renovations" includes the use of:



- 1 (1) New installations that require a coverage test prior  
2 to acceptance; and irrigation system designs, plans,  
3 and specifications that remain on site and contain  
4 water conservation language;
- 5 (2) Systems designed with sprinklers spaced head-to-head  
6 coverage or better, and with a precipitation rate not  
7 exceeding the soil infiltration rate;
- 8 (3) Systems designed to irrigate similar site, slope, sun  
9 exposure, soil conditions, and plant materials with  
10 similar water use on the same circuit;
- 11 (4) Climate-based automatic irrigation controllers  
12 utilizing either evapotranspiration and weather  
13 sensors, or soil moisture sensors;
- 14 (5) Flow sensors with a malfunction valve shutoff system  
15 capability in an irrigation controller and water  
16 submeters that measure outdoor water usage on larger  
17 sites;
- 18 (6) Water conserving irrigation components and check  
19 valves and drip irrigation for individual specimen  
20 plants;
- 21 (7) Storm water design methods, including infiltration  
22 beds, swales, and basins that allow water to collect



- 1 and soak into the ground on site, utilizing low impact  
2 development principles;
- 3 (8) Nonpotable water sources when available; and
- 4 (9) A qualified irrigation designer, such as an Irrigation  
5 Association-certified irrigation designer, Irrigation  
6 Association-certified irrigation contractor, or a  
7 maintenance contractor with water conservation  
8 expertise.

9 SECTION 2. The department of accounting and general  
10 services, department of transportation, and department of land  
11 and natural resources shall each submit a report regarding the  
12 results of the one-year irrigation water conservation best  
13 management practices pilot program, including any proposed  
14 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
15 to the convening of the regular session of 2019.

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



**Report Title:**

Water Conservation; Best Management Practices; Public Agencies

**Description:**

Establishes a one-year pilot program requiring DAGS, DOT, and DLNR to implement irrigation water conservation best management practices in Kapolei, Oahu, as established by the Landscape Industry Council of Hawaii. Requires DAGS, DOT, and DLNR to each submit a report regarding the results of the pilot program.  
(HB1173 HD1)

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

