JAN 2 0 2017

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER SECURITY FINANCING.

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

SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by 1 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read 2 3 as follows: "CHAPTER 4 5 WATER SECURITY FEE Imposition of fee; rate, collection. (a) There is 6 Ş -1 imposed and shall be levied, collected, and paid, a water 7 security fee on the use of all water withdrawn from municipal 8 and private water systems. The fee shall be at the rate of 9 cents per thousand gallons of water withdrawn. 10 The water security fee shall be collected by the 11 appropriate county board of water supply as part of its regular 12 billing to its customers; provided that the public utilities 13 commission shall collect the fee on water withdrawn by public 14

utilities furnishing facilities for the transmission of water.

- 1 § -2 Disposition of fees. All fees collected under this
- 2 chapter shall be paid into the water security fund established
- 3 by section 174C-E."
- 4 SECTION 2. Chapter 174C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 5 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
- 6 to read as follows:
- 7 "PART . WATER SECURITY FINANCING
- 8 §174C-A Definitions. As used in this part, unless the
- 9 context otherwise requires:
- 10 "Eliqible party" means a county agency, state agency,
- 11 private person, or organization able to provide matching funds
- 12 in an equal amount for water security projects.
- "Fund" means the water security fund established by section
- 14 174C-D.
- 15 "Water security projects" means projects or activities
- 16 described in section 174C-D.
- 17 §174C-B Declaration of policy. The State's policy is to
- 18 promote water security by matching grants for water security
- 19 projects of eligible parties.
- 20 §174C-C Powers and duties. (a) In addition to any other
- 21 power or duty prescribed by law, the commission shall:

1	(1)	Establish fiscal controls and accounting procedures
2	,	sufficient to, at minimum, assure proper accounting
3		for appropriate accounting periods of payments,
4		disbursements, revenues, and fees received and made
5		for fund balances at the beginning and end of the
6		accounting period;
7	(2)	No later than twenty days prior to the convening of
8		each regular session of the legislature, submit to the
9		legislature a financial report addressing the
10		operations of the fund during the most recently
11		completed fiscal year.
12	(b)	The commission may make a grant to an eligible party
13	for the i	mprovement of water security in the State; provided the
14	eligible	party provides matching funds in an equal amount.
15	§174	C-D Water security fund; establishment, purposes,
16	coordinat	ion. (a) There is established in the state treasury a
17	fund to be	e known as the water security fund to be administered
18	by the co	mmission.
19	(b)	The purpose of the fund is to provide matching grants

to eligible parties for water security projects, which are

projects or activities to:

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1	(1)	Increase the recharge of groundwater resources;
2	(2)	Encourage the reuse of water and reduce the use of
3		potable water for landscaping irrigation;
4	(3)	Improve the efficiency of potable and agricultural
5		water use;
6	(4)	Enable eligible parties to recapture stormwater or
7		subsurface drainage water; or
8	(5)	Enable eligible parties to develop and implement
9		watershed protection projects.
10	§174	C-E Water security fund; deposits. The following
11	shall be	deposited into the fund:
12	(1)	Federal grant funds or appropriations;
13	(2)	Appropriations by the legislature;
14	(3)	All fees collected under this chapter;
15	(4)	All interest attributable to investment of moneys
16		deposited in the fund; and
17	(5)	All moneys allotted or directed to the fund from other
18		sources.
19	§174	C-F Water security advisory group. (a) The
20	commission shall establish a water security advisory group,	
21	which shall be composed of the following members:	

1	(1)	The deputy to the chairperson of the commission;
2	(2)	The manager and chief engineer of the board of water
3		supply of each county or their designee;
4	(3)	One private landowner that actively partners with a
5		watershed partnership;
6	(4)	One member with knowledge of agricultural water
7		storage and delivery systems;
8	(5)	One member with knowledge, experience, and expertise
9		in the area of Hawaiian cultural practices; and
10	(6)	One member representing a conservation organization.
11	Publ	ic members of the water security advisory group shall
12	be appoin	ted by the governor as provided in section 26-34. The
13	water sec	urity advisory group shall select a chairperson from
14	among its	members. Any action of the advisory group shall be by
15	a simple	majority of its members. Five members shall constitute
16	a quorum.	The members shall serve without compensation but
17	shall be	reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses,
18	necessary	for the performance of their duties.
19	(b)	The water security advisory group shall advise the
20	commissio	n on the priority of all proposals for water security

projects submitted by eligible parties and recommend high-

1	priority	water security projects for the award of matching
2	grants.	
3	(c)	The water security advisory group shall:
4	(1)	Establish criteria for the evaluation of water
5		security project proposals and assignment of priority
6		to proposals;
7	(2)	Evaluate proposals based on the established criteria;
8	(3)	Assign priorities to each proposal submitted; and
9	(4)	Advise the commission on its evaluation of and
10		assignment of priority to each proposal submitted.
11	(d)	In advising the commission on the priorities for water
12	security	projects, the water security advisory group shall
13	consider	water security projects that:
14	(1)	Establish new areas or increase existing areas for the
15		recharge of groundwater resources;
16	(2)	Reduce the use of potable water for landscape
17		irrigation and encourage the reuse of water; and
18	(3)	Improve the efficiency of potable domestic water or
19		agricultural irrigation use.
20	(e)	All water security projects recommended for approval

by the water security advisory group shall be required to track

- 1 and report on the amount of water conserved, recharged, or
- 2 reused by the projects.
- 3 §174C-G Annual report. The commission shall submit to the
- 4 Legislature an annual report on the water security projects
- 5 approved by the commission at least twenty days prior to the
- 6 convening of each regular session. The annual report shall
- 7 include:
- 8 (1) A summary of all the water security projects approved
- 9 by the commission;
- 10 (2) A financial report for the most recently completed
- fiscal year; and
- 12 (3) The objectives and budget projections for the
- following fiscal year."
- 14 SECTION 3. Pursuant to article VIII, section 5, of the
- 15 Hawaii State Constitution, the State shall share in the cost
- 16 incurred by the county boards of water supply in the collection
- 17 of the water security fee established under chapter
- 18 Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- 19 SECTION 4. In codifying the new sections added by section
- 20 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute

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- 1 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
- 2 the new sections in this Act.
- 3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Report Title:

Water Security Fund; Water Security Fee; Water Security Advisory Group

Description:

Establishes a water security fund for the purpose of providing matching grants for projects related to water security; establishes eligible grantees and designates what moneys shall be deposited into the fund; imposes new water security fee. Creates a water security advisory group to advise the commission on which water security projects to select for grants. Requires annual report to legislature. Effective on 1/1/18.

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