
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STATE PLANNING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is a unique
2 and beautiful state, a precious lei of islands amidst the
3 Pacific Ocean and unique as the only Pacific island state. For
4 many, it is the ideal place to live and has been second to none
5 for providing a preferred quality of life. It is the
6 government's responsibility to identify the goals of the State
7 that are important for present and future generations, to
8 improve and maintain the quality of life for individuals and
9 communities and the quality of the visitor experience.
10 Preserving Hawaii's values is the unifying theme of the Hawaii
11 state plan, established pursuant to chapter 226, Hawaii Revised
12 Statutes, which is intended to preserve and protect the healthy
13 social, economic, and physical environments that benefit the
14 community as a whole.

15 The Hawaii state plan states as one of its goals "[a]
16 desired physical environment, characterized by beauty,
17 cleanliness, quiet, stable natural systems, and uniqueness, that



1 enhances the mental and physical well-being of the people".

2 Pursuant to sections 226-11 through 226-13, Hawaii Revised

3 Statutes, the state plan objectives and policies for the

4 physical environment include planning to protect:

5 (1) Land-based, shoreline, and marine resources;

6 (2) Scenic, natural beauty, and historic resources; and

7 (3) Land, air, and water quality.

8 The Hawaii state plan also sets priority guidelines for planning

9 for population growth and land resources, including

10 identification of critical environmental areas in Hawaii.

11 Critical environmental areas include scenic and recreational

12 shoreline resources, open space and natural areas, historic and

13 cultural sites, and scenic resources.

14 The legislature further finds that the lei of green, a plan

15 to link Honolulu's green parks, open space, recreation areas,

16 and greenways mauka to makai along the shoreline, interconnected

17 with tree-lined pedestrian paths for shade and climate control,

18 was first brought forth by the renowned national planner Lewis

19 Mumford to benefit the Territory of Hawaii. The lei of green

20 was further emphasized by the Hawaii chapter of the American

21 Society of Landscape Architects in 1999 and incorporated as a



1 guiding principle in the Kakaako makai master plan by the Hawaii
 2 community development authority in 2011. The legislature finds
 3 that there is a need for coordination among different agencies
 4 and levels of government in guiding the future of the State to
 5 ensure the long-continued and intended protection and
 6 preservation of the lei of green, consisting of Honolulu's
 7 historic parks and green recreational open spaces as an
 8 interconnected multi-use system.

9 The purpose of this Act is to:

10 (1) Include objectives, policies, and implementation
 11 guidelines for planning for the lei of green in the
 12 Hawaii State Planning Act; and

13 (2) Appropriate funds for one temporary full-time
 14 equivalent (1.0 FTE) planner position within the
 15 office of planning to prepare a status report on the
 16 lei of green, as required by this Act.

17 SECTION 2. Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 18 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
 19 designated and to read as follows:

20 "§226-A Objectives and policies for the physical
 21 environment--lei of green. (a) Planning for the State's



1 physical environment with regard to the lei of green shall be
2 directed toward achieving the objectives of:

3 (1) Protection and preservation of green public parks and
4 recreational open spaces within the lei of green;

5 (2) Expansion of greenways and shoreline promenades
6 interconnecting the lei of green from the Ala Wai
7 recreational boat harbor and Kewalo basin boat harbor
8 public lands to Honolulu harbor;

9 (3) Restoration, protection, and preservation of the
10 intrinsic elements of the lei of green; and

11 (4) Protection of the lei of green resources for the
12 immediate future and perpetuation of the lei of green
13 to benefit the public as an environmental legacy for
14 present and future generations.

15 (b) For the purposes of this section:

16 "Greenways" means a system of corridors of land or water
17 that connect and protect the natural, historic, cultural, and
18 recreational resources within the surrounding landscape and
19 communities.

20 "Lei of green" means the area of historic public parks and
21 recreational open spaces spanning from Diamond Head to Aloha



1 Tower, including Diamond Head state monument, Kapiolani regional
2 park, Ala Wai golf course, Ala Wai canal, Fort DeRussy beach
3 park, Ala Moana regional park, Kewalo basin park, Kakaako
4 waterfront park, Thomas square, and Irwin memorial park."

5 SECTION 3. Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately
7 designated and to read as follows:

8 "§226-B Lei of green. (a) The office shall implement the
9 lei of green policy, in coordination with appropriate state and
10 county departments. The office shall strive to:

- 11 (1) Ensure that the lei of green policy is a respected
12 guide for the restoration, protection, and
13 preservation of the anchor elements of the lei of
14 green, including its historic parks and historic
15 landscapes, recreational open spaces, and greenways
16 extending from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower; and
- 17 (2) Work closely with the county and the public to
18 implement the policy for state and county lands within
19 the lei of green.

20 (b) For the purposes of this section:



1 "Greenways" shall have the same meaning as in section
2 226-A.

3 "Historic landscape" means any park, recreational, or
4 cultural green open space listed on or eligible for the Hawaii
5 register of historic places.

6 "Lei of green" shall have the same meaning as in section
7 226-A."

8 SECTION 4. The office of planning shall submit a report to
9 the legislature and the governor of its findings and
10 recommendations on the status of the lei of green policy,
11 including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days
12 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2020. The
13 report shall provide benchmarks as necessary to assist
14 incremental compliance with fulfilling and completing the lei of
15 green from Diamond Head to Aloha Tower.

16 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and
19 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
20 year 2020-2021 for costs associated with researching, compiling,
21 and submitting the status report on the lei of green policy



1 required pursuant to section 4 of this Act, including one full-
2 time equivalent (1.0 FTE) temporary planner position within the
3 office of planning; provided that the temporary planner shall be
4 responsible for researching and compiling the report on the
5 status of the lei of green policy required.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the office of
7 planning for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 6. In codifying the new sections added by section
9 2 and 3 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
10 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
11 the new sections in this Act.

12 SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on December 31,
14 2050.



Report Title:

Hawaii State Plan; Lei of Green; Appropriation

Description:

Includes objectives and policies and implementation guidelines for planning for the lei of green in the Hawaii State Planning Act. Appropriates funds for costs associated with researching, compiling, and submitting the status report on the lei of green policy, including (1.0) FTE temporary planner position within the Office of Planning. Effective 12/31/2050. (SD2)

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

