

S.B. NO. 1262

JAN 24 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INCREASED FUNDING FOR LAND CONSERVATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that "the value of
2 Hawaii's natural resources to its economy, culture, and quality
3 of life, but an alarmingly small amount of money is invested
4 each year to protect our natural capital base" (Act 156, Session
5 Laws of Hawaii 2005).

6 The legislature also finds that there is a clear nexus
7 between the source of the conveyance tax and providing funding
8 for land conservation. The development, sale, and improvement
9 of real estate in Hawaii adds additional pressure on natural
10 areas, coastal access, agricultural production, and Hawaii's
11 water resources and watershed recharge areas. Funding made
12 available for land conservation should keep pace with escalating
13 real estate prices and demand.

14 The purpose of this Act is to provide increased funding for
15 land conservation by removing the annual dollar amount cap of
16 the annual proceeds from the conveyance tax to the existing land
17 acquisition fund established by Act 77, Session Laws of Hawaii

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1 1973, codified as the land conservation fund in section 173A-5,
2 Hawaii Revised Statutes.

3 SECTION 2. Section 247-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "§247-7 Disposition of taxes. All taxes collected under
6 this chapter shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit
7 of the general fund of the State, to be used and expended for
8 the purposes for which the general fund was created and exists
9 by law; provided that of the taxes collected each fiscal year:

10 (1) Ten per cent [~~or \$6,800,000, whichever is less,~~] shall
11 be paid into the land conservation fund established
12 pursuant to section 173A-5; and

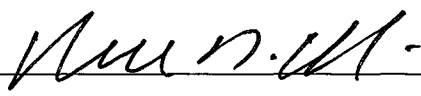
13 (2) Fifty per cent or \$38,000,000, whichever is less,
14 shall be paid into the rental housing revolving fund
15 established by section 201H-202."

16 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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INTRODUCED BY: 

21

BY REQUEST

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Report Title:

Land Conservation Fund; Conveyance Tax

Description:

Adjusts the proportion of conveyance tax revenues deposited into the Land Conservation Fund.

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

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Land and Natural Resources

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO INCREASED FUNDING LAND CONSERVATION.

PURPOSE: To adjust the proportion of conveyance tax revenues deposited into the Land Conservation Fund.

MEANS: Amend sections 247-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: There is a clear nexus between the source of the conveyance tax and providing funding for land conservation. The development, sale, and improvement of real estate in Hawaii adds additional pressure on natural areas, coastal access, agricultural production, and Hawaii's water resources and watershed recharge areas. Funding available for land conservation should keep pace with escalating real estate prices and demand.

The bill would increase funding available for land conservation acquisitions to protect natural, cultural, recreational, scenic, and agricultural resources by removing the annual dollar amount cap of the annual proceeds from the Conveyance Tax to the Land Conservation Fund.

Impact on the public: The bill would increase the amount of land available for public enjoyment and use.

Impact on the department and other agencies: The bill would increase funding for the Department and other agencies (particularly the four counties and the Department of Agriculture) to acquire interests in land for resource protection.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION:

LNR 101.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES:

Department of Land and Natural Resources,
Department of Agriculture, Counties.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2019.