
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change and
2 sea level rise pose significant, dangerous, and imminent threats
3 to the State's social and economic well-being, public safety,
4 nature and environment, cultural resources, property,
5 infrastructure, and government functions. Chronic impacts of
6 sea level rise, including coastal erosion, high-tide flooding,
7 and annual high-wave flooding, are already impacting many low-
8 lying coastal areas and are predicted to increase in extent and
9 severity in the coming decades.

10 To successfully adapt to climate change and sea level rise,
11 state agencies with operational responsibilities over facilities
12 owned and managed by the State must plan, coordinate, and act to
13 assure Hawaii's sustainable and resilient future and mitigate
14 against societal or economic disruptions caused by climate
15 impacts. The legislature recognizes that the practice of
16 statewide sea level rise adaptation will require comprehensive
17 and long-term planning and that collectively, state agencies



1 with operational responsibilities over state facilities must
2 work collaboratively over time through a centralized
3 coordinating agency to identify existing and planned facilities
4 that are vulnerable to sea level rise, flooding impacts, and
5 natural hazards.

6 In accordance with Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021,
7 the office of planning and sustainable development conducted an
8 inventory of state facilities vulnerable to sea level rise and
9 identified that over 275 facilities owned and managed by the
10 State are located within the sea level rise exposure area in the
11 3.2-foot sea level rise scenario, as projected by the 2017
12 *Hawaii sea level rise and adaptation report*, which was prepared
13 as required by Act 83, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, as amended
14 by Act 32, Session Laws of Hawaii 2017. These vulnerable
15 facilities represent structures under the management of twenty
16 different state agencies. The 2021 report recommended that
17 site-specific vulnerability assessments be conducted on the
18 facilities identified in the exposure assessment in order to
19 fully understand the vulnerabilities, impacts, and adaptive
20 capacity of these facilities and facilitate agencies' abilities



1 to prioritize needs for current and future sea level rise
2 adaptation into capital improvement requests.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require the office of
4 planning and sustainable development to develop a standardized
5 process for assessing the vulnerability of state facilities to
6 sea level rise.

7 SECTION 2. The office of planning and sustainable
8 development, in consultation with state agencies with
9 operational responsibilities over facilities owned and managed
10 by the State, shall develop a standardized process for assessing
11 the vulnerability of facilities owned and managed by the State
12 to sea level rise in order to ensure that sea level rise
13 planning and adaptation implementation are carried out in a
14 consistent and comprehensive way across state agencies' capital
15 planning projects.

16 The development of a standardized vulnerability assessment
17 process shall include:

- 18 (1) A standardized procedure and template for assessing
19 and reporting facility vulnerability to sea level
20 rise; and



1 (2) Guidance for agencies with operational
2 responsibilities over facilities owned and managed by
3 the State on how to conduct the vulnerability
4 assessment.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to
8 fund the development of a standardized vulnerability assessment
9 process for facilities owned and managed by the State.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
11 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this
12 Act.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



Report Title:

Office of Planning and Sustainable Development; Sea Level Rise Adaptation; Vulnerability Assessments; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in cooperation with each state agency having operational responsibilities over state facilities, to develop a standardized process to conduct vulnerability assessments for facilities at risk from sea level rise and guidance to agencies on how to conduct the vulnerability assessments for their facilities. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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