
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AN ENVIRONMENTAL TOXINS LABORATORY.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 342J, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§342J- Testing laboratory; diseases; quality of air,
5 water, soil, and biological specimens. (a) The department
6 shall:

7 (1) Establish and operate a laboratory capable of:

8 (A) Testing for diseases;

9 (B) Testing for the presence of toxins in samples of
10 air, water, soil, and biological and other
11 specimens; and

12 (C) Conducting other high complexity testing; and

13 (2) Ensure that the testing laboratory complies with all
14 applicable standards enumerated in the Clinical
15 Laboratories Improvement Amendments of 1988, title 42
16 United States Code section 263a.



1 (b) The laboratory established pursuant to subsection (a)
2 shall receive and analyze samples submitted by any person who
3 reasonably believes that the sample contains environmental
4 toxins in violation of applicable law.

5 (c) In operating the testing laboratory, the department
6 shall ensure prompt and full public access to the results of
7 analyses of all submissions of testing samples submitted to the
8 laboratory. The department shall provide complete reports of
9 all submissions no later than ten days after receipt of the
10 submissions."

11 SECTION 2. The department may obtain and expend federal
12 funds for the construction and operation of the testing
13 laboratory established pursuant to this Act. However, if the
14 school is unable to obtain firm commitment from the federal
15 government for the adequate financing of the laboratory within
16 nine months of the effective date of this Act, the department
17 shall proceed expeditiously to construct and begin initial
18 operations of the laboratory using the funds appropriated by
19 this Act.

20 SECTION 3. The department shall submit a report on its
21 progress of establishing a laboratory pursuant to this Act, to



1 the legislature no later than thirty days prior to the convening
2 of the regular session of 2025.

3 SECTION 4. The director of finance is authorized to issue
4 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$ or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof
6 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2024-2025
7 for the purpose of financing the construction of an
8 environmental toxins testing laboratory.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
10 health for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 5. The appropriation made for the capital
12 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at
13 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is
14 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation
15 unencumbered as of June 30, 2026, shall lapse as of that date.

16 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
17

INTRODUCED BY:

NHB

JAN 24 2024



H.B. NO. 2784

Report Title:

DOH; Environmental Toxins; Testing laboratory; Harmful Substances; Diseases; Natural Resources; CIP; GO Bond

Description:

Requires the Department of Health to construct, establish, and operate an environmental toxins testing laboratory to test samples submitted by the public for diseases; water, air, and soil quality; and complex testing. Allows the Director of Finance to issue general obligation bonds.

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