

JAN 24 2024

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CENTER FOR CLIMATE RESILIENT DEVELOPMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that leaders in the State  
2 are keenly aware of the vulnerabilities and threats posed by  
3 climate change hazards, however no individual office or agency  
4 is responsible for developing community resiliency plans.

5           The legislature also finds that community resiliency is  
6 addressed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
7 (IPCC), the world's leading authority on climate science. In  
8 its latest Assessment Report 6 (AR6), the IPCC defined the term  
9 "climate resilient development." The legislature finds that  
10 climate resilience development combines strategies to adapt to  
11 climate change with actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions  
12 to support sustainable development with an emphasis on social  
13 equity for all communities.

14           The legislature further finds that AR6 also defines climate  
15 resilient development involving questions of equity and system  
16 transitions in land, ocean, and ecosystems; urban and



1 infrastructure; energy; industry; and society, and includes  
2 adaptations for human, ecosystem and planetary health.

3       The legislature finds that given the lack of climate  
4 resilient development capacity in the State, the legislature  
5 proposes leveraging existing modeling expertise in the school of  
6 ocean and earth science and technology (SOEST) at the university  
7 of Hawaii at Manoa, which has already been working with  
8 communities to identify multiple forms of flooding due to sea  
9 level rise, hurricane storm surge, heat projections, and  
10 leverages campus-wide expertise in wildfire ignition modeling.  
11 The legislature finds that these modeling capacities at SOEST  
12 are currently funded by soft money grants and contracts and thus  
13 are a fragile resource for Hawaii to depend on for community-  
14 focused climate science and could disappear any year if funding  
15 failed to materialize. The legislature notes that instability  
16 and gridlock at the federal government has put this critical  
17 research at risk of being lost.

18       Accordingly, the legislature finds that there should be  
19 created a center for climate resilient development in SOEST at  
20 the university of Hawaii at Manoa. The center should be a  
21 community-focused resource that provides guidance on climate



1 hazards, works moku by moku across the state assessing risk and  
2 vulnerabilities to climate hazards, and makes recommendations  
3 for capital improvement projects and shovel-ready projects to  
4 build resiliency. The center should also continue to seek  
5 external funding to bolster its efforts and expand research and  
6 modeling capabilities.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to  
8 establish and operate the center for climate resistance  
9 development.

10 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
11 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
12 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
13 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
14 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
15 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by  
16 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
17 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
18 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
19 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
20 ceiling are that:



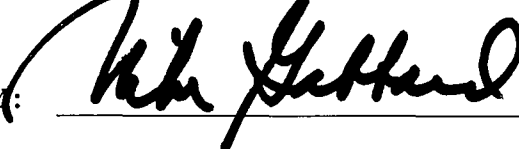
1 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
2 serve the public interest; and

3 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
4 addressed by this Act.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the  
8 university of Hawaii school of ocean and earth science and  
9 technology to establish and operate the center for climate  
10 resilient development.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the university of  
12 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

14  
INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 3246

**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii; Center for climate Resilient Development;  
Climate Change; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the school of ocean and earth science and technology within the university of Hawaii to establish and operate a center for climate resilient development. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded.

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