
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that conserving Hawaii's
2 finite water resources is essential to ensure the health of the
3 State's fresh water supply. In response to the recent fuel
4 spills at Red Hill, the city and county of Honolulu's board of
5 water supply shut down one of Oahu's largest water sources, the
6 Halawa shaft, which subsequently led to calls for water
7 conservation on Oahu. Other counties, in response to equipment
8 breakdowns, drought, and other circumstances, have also had to
9 implement calls for water conservation multiple times in recent
10 years.

11 The legislature also finds that residential irrigation is a
12 major source of water use and, frequently, wasteful misuse.
13 When water conservation measures are in effect, reducing or
14 ceasing irrigation is always one of the first things residents
15 are asked to do because using less water for irrigation has a
16 large impact for a relatively small sacrifice. The legislature
17 further finds that the practice of maintaining landscaping that



1 is not suited to the local climate requires more labor, money,
2 time, and water than landscape installations that are
3 drought-resistant, less water-intensive, and more suited to the
4 local conditions.

5 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys
6 to the city and county of Honolulu board of water supply to
7 create a pilot program that incentivizes residential homeowners
8 in certain dry areas to replace water-intensive landscaping with
9 alternatives that reduce water use.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
13 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
14 year 2024-2025 for the city and county of Honolulu board of
15 water supply to establish an irrigation water use reduction
16 pilot program to provide:

- 17 (1) Incentives to residential homeowners in dry areas of
18 Oahu that were previously served by the Aiea and
19 Halawa wells who replace existing landscaping and
20 irrigation with alternatives that lower water use;
21 provided that preference may be given to alternatives



1 that include native species and support pollinators;
2 and

3 (2) Outreach services and education to the public
4 concerning landscaping and irrigation alternatives
5 that reduce water use;

6 provided further that no moneys appropriated shall be expended
7 unless a forty per cent match is provided by the city and county
8 of Honolulu; provided further that the rebate amount shall be
9 determined by the city and county of Honolulu board of water
10 supply but shall not be more than \$1,500 per project; provided
11 further that for a residential homeowner to qualify for the
12 rebate under the irrigation water use reduction pilot program,
13 the city and county of Honolulu board of water supply shall
14 verify that the residential homeowner experienced a reduction in
15 water use by at least thirty per cent and the replacement of
16 landscaping or irrigation was performed by a licensed landscape
17 contractor in good standing with the department of commerce and
18 consumer affairs.

19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the city and
20 county of Honolulu board of water supply for the purposes of
21 this Act.



1 SECTION 3. The city and county of Honolulu board of water
2 supply shall submit a report to the legislature no later
3 than , , on the irrigation water use reduction
4 pilot program; provided that the report shall include:

- 5 (1) Water use reduction metrics;
- 6 (2) Findings on the implementation of the program; and
- 7 (3) Any other information to further the program in the
8 future.

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



Report Title:

City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Water Use Reduction Pilot Programs; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the city and county of Honolulu board of water supply to create a pilot program that incentivizes residential homeowners in certain dry areas to replace landscaping and irrigation with alternatives that reduce water use. Requires report to the legislature. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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