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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE PLANNING ACT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 100, Session  
2 Laws of Hawaii 1978, established the Hawaii State Planning Act  
3 to guide future long-range development of the State. The Hawaii  
4 State Planning Act is comprised of thirteen functional plans  
5 focusing on a wide range of state objectives such as  
6 agriculture, education, housing, energy, tourism, and  
7 transportation. As a broad framework, the Hawaii state plan  
8 establishes standards and policies to guide activities,  
9 programs, and policies made by county and state agencies.

10           In 1983, the State initiated its first comprehensive review  
11 of the Hawaii state plan. The review, completed in 1985,  
12 resulted in the enactment of legislation to refine and address  
13 goals, policies, and objectives of part I and priority  
14 guidelines in part III of the Hawaii State Planning Act. Since  
15 1985, the State has experienced significant economic, physical,  
16 social, and technological changes that have enhanced and  
17 constrained opportunities for the State. Therefore, some



1 findings and recommendations made to the Hawaii state plan in  
2 the initial review may not reflect the State's current needs,  
3 goals, and long-range objectives for the twenty-first century.

4 In light of this, in 2018, the office of planning and  
5 sustainable development completed phase I of the comprehensive  
6 review of the Hawaii State Planning Act. The work completed in  
7 phase I yielded findings and recommendations that provide a  
8 foundation and scope of a recommended phase II update, including  
9 an approach to align current and emerging conditions and issues  
10 to enhance the effectiveness of planning, the needs of Hawaii's  
11 people, and the future trajectory of the State. As critical  
12 work on the phase I update has been completed, and due to the  
13 pressing challenges facing the State and its residents, the  
14 State is poised to now conduct phase II to update the Hawaii  
15 state plan, consistent with critical data and to formulate long-  
16 term goals and opportunities for greater community engagement to  
17 provide a path toward future economic and sustainable success.

18 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 19 (1) Establish the Hawaii State Planning Act phase II  
20 update task force; and  
21 (2) Appropriate funds.



1 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the Hawaii State  
2 Planning Act phase II task force to be placed within the office  
3 of planning and sustainable development for administrative  
4 purposes only.

5 (b) The task force shall:

6 (1) Create a two-year plan to examine the issues  
7 established in subsection (c), clarify and articulate  
8 findings, develop metrics and benchmarks to measure  
9 progress, and develop a final report that describes  
10 how the State is addressing the findings set forth in  
11 the phase I update completed in 2018;

12 (2) Incorporate into the plan how it will coordinate with  
13 other groups, agencies, and programs within and  
14 outside of the State to achieve alignment of plans and  
15 their implementation;

16 (3) Incorporate into the plan how it will coordinate with  
17 the counties to achieve alignment of plans and their  
18 implementation; and

19 (4) Consider and incorporate into the plan equity  
20 concerns, including economic and accessibility impacts  
21 to low-income communities.



- 1 (c) The task force shall examine and report on:
- 2 (1) The findings of the original Hawaii State Planning
- 3 Act, including any amendments necessary for relevancy;
- 4 (2) Re-establishment and formulation of a list of long-
- 5 range objectives and focus areas for functional plans
- 6 that place greater emphasis on plan formulation and
- 7 program coordination to integrate state and county
- 8 activities, including but not limited to an evaluation
- 9 of the latest state and county comprehensive economic
- 10 development strategies;
- 11 (3) Definitions in section 226-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 12 that may require amendments;
- 13 (4) Principles and values considered integral to the
- 14 State, including tests for current relevancy and
- 15 necessary amendments;
- 16 (5) Consistency of state goals established pursuant to
- 17 section 226-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, in relation to
- 18 departments, counties, and the general public;
- 19 (6) The ability of the Hawaii state plan to provide a
- 20 relevant, multi-disciplinary planning system and
- 21 direction to encourage and facilitate cooperation



1 among various entities, including between the State  
2 and the counties; and

3 (7) Objectives and policies established pursuant to  
4 sections 225-5 through 225-27, Hawaii Revised  
5 Statutes, that are out-of-date and require updates to  
6 conform with current and long-range goals, which may  
7 be achieved by:

8 (A) Convening sub-working groups to reconsider and  
9 update the objectives and policies;

10 (B) Simplifying and reducing the number of policies;

11 (C) Ensuring functional plans have updated policies;  
12 and

13 (D) Reorienting functional plans to emphasize  
14 coordination between state agencies and the  
15 counties to ensure functional plans focus on  
16 depth and specificity.

17 (d) The task force shall appoint a coordinator, who shall  
18 be exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

19 (e) The task force shall comprise the following members;



- 1           (1) The director of the office of planning and sustainable  
2           development, or their designee, who shall serve as  
3           chairperson;
- 4           (2) The superintendent of education, or their designee;
- 5           (3) A representative from the university of Hawaii  
6           economic research organization;
- 7           (4) The Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation  
8           commission's co-chairs, or their designees;
- 9           (5) The planning directors of each county, or their  
10          designees;
- 11          (6) The chairpersons of each county economic development  
12          board, or their designees; and
- 13          (7) Other relevant stakeholders to include non-profit,  
14          academia, business, and Native Hawaiian  
15          representatives, to be invited by the task force and  
16          its chairperson.
- 17          (f) The task force shall submit annual reports of the task  
18          force's progress, completed actions, and findings and  
19          recommendations, including any proposed legislation, for the  
20          State to achieve the goals set forth, to the legislature no



1 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
2 sessions of 2026 and 2027.

3 (g) The task force shall cease to exist on January 1,  
4 2027.

5 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
6 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
8 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
9 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
10 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by  
11 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes  
12 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
13 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
14 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
15 ceiling are that:

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

18 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
19 addressed by this Act.

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
2 the administration costs of the Hawaii State Planning Act phase  
3 II task force established in section 2 of this Act.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
5 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this  
6 Act.

7 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
10 the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE)  
11 coordinator position, who shall be exempt from chapter 76,  
12 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to support the Hawaii State Planning  
13 Act phase II update task force established in section 2 of this  
14 Act.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of  
16 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this  
17 Act.

18 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY: Linda Ichizone  
JAN 19 2024





# H.B. NO. 1925

**Report Title:**

OPSD; Hawaii State Planning Act; Phase II Update; Task Force; Position; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Hawaii State Planning Act Phase II Update Task Force within the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation.

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

