
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the department
2 of business, economic development, and tourism for
3 administrative purposes the desalination planning task force.
- 4 (b) The task force shall comprise the following members:
- 5 (1) The director of the office of planning and sustainable
6 development or the director's designee, who shall
7 serve as chairperson;
- 8 (2) The director of health or the director's designee;
- 9 (3) The chairperson of the commission on water resource
10 management or the chairperson's designee;
- 11 (4) One member representing a municipal water agency from
12 each county, to be appointed by each respective
13 county's mayor;
- 14 (5) One member from the water resources research center of
15 the university of Hawaii, to be appointed by the
16 president of the university of Hawaii;



- 1 (6) A member of the senate, to be appointed by the
2 president of the senate;
- 3 (7) A member of the house of representatives, to be
4 appointed by the speaker of the house of
5 representatives; and
- 6 (8) A member of the public with relevant knowledge or
7 experience in desalination, water resource management,
8 or water distribution, to be appointed by the
9 governor;
- 10 provided that the task force, by a majority vote, may invite
11 other individuals with relevant knowledge or experience to serve
12 on the task force.
- 13 (c) The members of the task force shall not be subject to
14 chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely based on their
15 participation on the task force.
- 16 (d) Members of the task force shall serve without
17 compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses,
18 including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of
19 their duties.
- 20 (e) The office of planning and sustainable development
21 shall provide administrative support to the task force.



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- 1 (f) The task force shall:
- 2 (1) Examine the feasibility of using desalination as a
- 3 source of clean and safe drinking water to supplement
- 4 Hawaii's existing groundwater and surface water
- 5 resources;
- 6 (2) Determine the extent to which the use of desalination
- 7 will:
- 8 (A) Assist the State meet its projected future water
- 9 needs; and
- 10 (B) Improve the resiliency of Hawaii's water systems,
- 11 considering in particular the impacts of the
- 12 water crisis caused by contamination at the Red
- 13 Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility; and
- 14 (3) Establish a plan to implement desalination, including
- 15 required capital improvements, projected operating
- 16 costs, and a projected timeline to construct and begin
- 17 operating desalination plants.
- 18 (g) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
- 19 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
- 20 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
- 21 the regular session of 2024.



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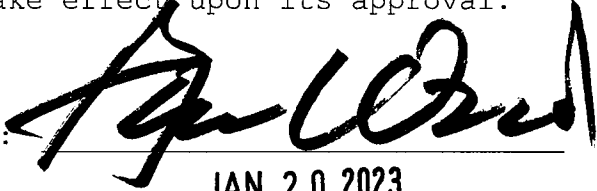
1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for
4 expenses of the desalination planning task force.

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

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:



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Report Title:

Potable Water; Desalination; Task Force; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a Desalination Planning Task Force to examine the feasibility of, and develop a plan and timeline for, the use desalination as a source of potable water in the State. Appropriates moneys.

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

