
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEA LEVEL RISE ADAPTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change and
2 sea level rise pose significant, dangerous, and imminent threats
3 to the State's social and economic well-being, public safety,
4 nature and environments, cultural resources, property,
5 infrastructure, and government functions. Chronic impacts of
6 sea level rise, including coastal erosion, high tide flooding,
7 and annual high wave flooding, are already impacting many low-
8 lying coastal areas and are predicted to increase in extent and
9 severity in the coming decades.

10 To successfully adapt to climate change and sea level rise,
11 state agencies having operational responsibilities over
12 facilities owned and managed by the State must plan, coordinate,
13 and act to assure Hawaii's sustainable and resilient future and
14 mitigate against societal or economic disruptions caused by
15 climate impacts. The legislature recognizes that the practice
16 of statewide sea level rise adaptation will require
17 comprehensive and long-term planning and that collectively,



1 state agencies having operational responsibilities over state
2 facilities must work collaboratively over time through a
3 centralized coordinating agency to identify existing and planned
4 facilities that are vulnerable to sea level rise, flooding
5 impacts, and natural hazards.

6 In accordance with Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021,
7 the office of planning and sustainable development conducted an
8 inventory of state facilities vulnerable to sea level rise and
9 identified that over two hundred and seventy-five facilities
10 owned and managed by the State are located within the sea level
11 rise exposure area in the 3.2 feet sea level rise scenario, as
12 projected by the 2017 *Hawaii Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and*
13 *Adaptation Report*, which was prepared as required by Act 83,
14 Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, as amended by Act 32, Session Laws
15 of Hawaii 2017. These vulnerable facilities represent
16 structures under the management of twenty different state
17 agencies. The 2021 report recommended that site-specific
18 vulnerability assessments be conducted on the facilities
19 identified in the exposure assessment in order to fully
20 understand the vulnerabilities, impacts, and adaptive capacity
21 and facilitate agencies' abilities to prioritize needs for



1 current and future sea level rise adaptation into capital
2 improvement requests.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require the office of
4 planning and sustainable development to develop a standardized
5 process for assessing the vulnerability of state facilities to
6 sea level rise.

7 SECTION 2. The office of planning and sustainable
8 development, in consultation with state agencies having
9 operational responsibilities over facilities owned and managed
10 by the State, shall develop a standardized process for assessing
11 the vulnerability of facilities owned and managed by the State
12 to sea level rise in order to ensure that sea level rise
13 planning and adaptation implementation is carried out in a
14 consistent and comprehensive manner across state agencies'
15 capital planning projects.

16 The development of a standardized vulnerability assessment
17 process shall include:

- 18 (1) A standardized procedure and template for assessing
19 and reporting facility vulnerability to sea level
20 rise; and



1 (2) Guidance for agencies having operational
2 responsibilities over facilities owned and managed by
3 the State on how to conduct the vulnerability
4 assessment.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to
8 fund the development of a standardized vulnerability assessment
9 process for facilities owned and managed by the State.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of
11 planning and sustainable development for the purposes of this
12 Act.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, Sea Level Rise
Adaptation; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, in cooperation with each state agency having operational responsibilities over state facilities to develop a standardized process to conduct vulnerability assessments for facilities at risk from sea level rise and guidance to agencies on how to conduct the vulnerability assessments for their facilities. Makes an appropriation. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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