

JAN 18 2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the conservation and
2 resources enforcement program of the department of land and
3 natural resources shoulders responsibilities that are integral
4 to preserving the public peace and safety. Specifically, the
5 program is responsible for enforcing laws on public lands and
6 waters of the State.

7 The legislature recognizes that proper training, equipment,
8 and organizational support are imperative to the success of law
9 enforcement officers in the conservation and resources
10 enforcement program. To this end, the division of conservation
11 and resources enforcement of the department of land and natural
12 resources established an academy to better train law enforcement
13 officers.

14 The legislature further finds that the Commission on
15 Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., created in
16 1979, serves as a law enforcement credentialing authority
17 through collaboration with law enforcement executive



1 associations. The Honolulu and Maui police departments are
2 accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law
3 Enforcement Agencies, Inc., and the sheriff division of the
4 department of public safety is required to obtain accreditation
5 pursuant to section 353C-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 The legislature further recognizes that the conservation
7 and resources enforcement program was previously required to
8 obtain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for
9 Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. As recently as 2020, the
10 conservation and resources enforcement program was required to
11 obtain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for
12 Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., in the use of electric guns, but
13 Act 183, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, inadvertently repealed
14 that requirement when it repealed the entirety of section
15 134-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

16 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
17 land and natural resources to seek and obtain accreditation for
18 the conservation and resources enforcement program from the
19 Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

20 SECTION 2. No later than June 30, 2030, the department of
21 land and natural resources shall pursue and obtain accreditation



1 for the conservation and resources enforcement program from the
2 Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

3 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
4 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
5 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
6 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
7 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
8 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by

9 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
10 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
11 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
12 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
13 ceiling are that:

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

16 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
17 addressed by this Act.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
21 the department of land and natural resources to pursue and



1 obtain accreditation for the conservation and resources
2 enforcement program from the Commission on Accreditation for Law
3 Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Francis R. Snyper*



S.B. NO. 2162

Report Title:

DLNR; Conservation and Resources Enforcement Program;
Accreditation; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources to pursue and obtain accreditation for the Conservation and Resources Enforcement Program from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. Makes an appropriation.

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