
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION.

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

1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for
2 immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of
3 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. The legislature finds that the devastating Maui
5 wildfires on August 8, 2023, was one of the worst natural
6 disasters in the State's history.

7 The legislature further finds that in response to the
8 growing threat of wildfires and other natural hazards, the
9 public utilities commission plays a critical role in the State's
10 efforts to strengthen critical infrastructure, mitigate risks,
11 protect utility customers, and ensure robust recovery following
12 extreme weather events.

13 To effectively address these challenges, it is urgently
14 imperative for the public utilities commission to strengthen the
15 resilience and reliability of electric utility services in the
16 State. These initiatives will require consultants with



1 specialized expertise to provide technical assessments,
2 evaluations, and recommendations for mitigating storm-related
3 power outages, restoring the grid, rebuilding Maui
4 infrastructure, and preparing for direct impacts of other
5 natural disasters to the State.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to make an
7 emergency appropriation out of the public utilities commission
8 special fund for the public utilities commission to procure the
9 services of specialized consultants to assist with the efforts
10 to strengthen the resilience and reliability of electric utility
11 services in the State, including helping review wildfire
12 mitigation plans of regulated public utilities.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the public
14 utilities commission special fund established by section 269-33,
15 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the sum of \$700,000 or so much thereof
16 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to contract
17 consultant services for utility dockets to assist with the
18 efforts to strengthen the resilience and reliability of electric
19 utility services in the State, including helping review wildfire
20 mitigation plans of regulated public utilities.



- 1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the public
- 2 utilities commission for the purposes of this Act.
- 3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Emergency Appropriation; PUC; Public Utilities Commission
Special Fund; Consultant Services

Description:

Makes an emergency appropriation out of the Public Utilities
Commission Special Fund for the Public Utilities Commission to
procure services by consultants with technical expertise to
assist with the efforts to strengthen the resilience and
reliability of electric utility services in the State. (CD1)

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