
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.

10 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII, of
11 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and
12 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined
13 that the emergency appropriation contained in this Act will
14 cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year
15 2024-2025 to be exceeded by \$ or per cent. The
16 reason for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling is
17 that the appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve
18 the public interest and meet the needs provided for by this Act.

19 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the public
20 utilities commission special fund established by section 269-33,
21 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the sum of \$ or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to
2 contract consultant services for utility dockets.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the public
4 utilities commission for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

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

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. Declares that the expenditure fund ceiling is exceeded. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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