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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO TAX LIENS.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 166, Session  
2       Laws of Hawaii 2009, enacted a fifteen-year statute of  
3       limitations on the collection of taxes that had been timely  
4       assessed, comparable to the ten-year statute of limitations that  
5       applies to federal taxes.

6       The purpose of this Act is to adopt procedures comparable  
7       to those in the federal system to ensure that taxpayers are not  
8       harmed by previously recorded tax liens for which the underlying  
9       liability has been rendered unenforceable by the expiration of  
10      the fifteen-year period.

11      SECTION 2. Section 231-33, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12      amended by amending subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

13      "(f) The department may record in the bureau of  
14      conveyances at Honolulu, or in respect of a lien on a motor  
15      vehicle, file with the county director of finance, a certificate  
16      setting forth the amount of taxes due and unpaid, which have  
17      been returned, assessed, or as to which a notice of proposed



1 assessment has issued. The certificate shall identify the  
2 taxpayer, the taxpayer's last known address, ~~[and]~~ the tax or  
3 taxes involved~~[.]~~, and the date on which the liability for the  
4 tax or taxes was assessed. The recording or filing of the  
5 certificate has the effect set forth in this section, but  
6 nothing in this section shall be deemed to require that a  
7 certificate recorded or filed by the department must include the  
8 amount of any penalty or interest, in order to protect the lien  
9 therefor. The certificate, if recorded or filed with the county  
10 director of finance, shall be entered of record as provided by  
11 law. Recordation of the certificate in the bureau of  
12 conveyances shall be deemed, at such time, for all purposes and  
13 without any further action, to procure a lien on land registered  
14 in the land court under chapter 501. Any cost incurred in the  
15 filing of the certificate shall be a part of the lien for the  
16 tax therein set forth.

17 (g) The department may issue a certificate of discharge of  
18 any part of the property subject to the lien imposed by this  
19 section, upon payment in partial satisfaction of such lien, of  
20 an amount not less than the value as determined by the  
21 department of the lien on the part to be so discharged, or if



1 the department determines that the lien on the part to be  
2 discharged has no value. The department shall issue a  
3 certificate of discharge as to any liability that has been  
4 satisfied or that has become unenforceable. Any [such]  
5 discharge so issued shall be conclusive evidence of the  
6 discharge of the lien as therein provided."

7 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10 INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 21 2025



# H.B. NO. 1173

**Report Title:**

Taxation; DOTAX; Tax Liens; Discharge When Unenforceable

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Taxation to: (1) State the assessment date on certificates of tax lien; and (2) Issue certificates of discharge when the tax liability on which a lien is based has become unenforceable by lapse of time.

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

