

JAN 18 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The risks posed by climate change to Hawai'i
2 were recognized as early as 1984 in Senate Resolution No. 137.
3 In response to the resolution, a 1985 report titled the *Effects*
4 *on Hawai'i of a Worldwide Rise in Sea Level Induced by the*
5 *Greenhouse Effect* was compiled. The report noted the debate
6 surrounding the greenhouse effect had shifted from questioning
7 the possibility that the greenhouse effect would occur to
8 whether the effect would be mild or severe, as well as the time
9 frame for its imminent occurrence.

10 Hawai'i's first iteration of a climate change action plan
11 was completed in 1998. The Hawai'i climate change action plan
12 did not set specific goals, but was intended to be a catalyst
13 for discussions by Hawai'i's people about their involvement in
14 future efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to
15 climate change. The plan's major recommendation was to develop
16 a consensus about the State's goals for greenhouse gas emissions
17 reductions.



1 Hawai'i's first sustainability plan, published in 2008,
2 warned of global warming, rising sea levels, and stronger, more
3 frequent storms impacting Hawai'i. The sustainability plan also
4 established many goals and recommendations, including strategic
5 actions to: reduce reliance on fossil fuels; conserve water and
6 ensure an adequate water supply; conduct research to strengthen
7 management initiatives to respond to rising sea levels, coastal
8 hazards, erosion, and other natural hazards; and develop a
9 comprehensive environmental mapping and measurement system to
10 evaluate the overall health and status of the State's natural
11 ecosystems. In an effort to reduce the State's reliance on
12 fossil fuels, the plan set a benchmark that required twenty per
13 cent of the State's electricity to be generated from renewable
14 resources by the end of 2020.

15 In 2009, the multi-stakeholder ocean resources management
16 plan working group, established by the Hawai'i coastal zone
17 management program, developed a framework for climate change
18 adaptation in Hawai'i as part of the ocean resources management
19 plan implementation. Core values for adaptation to climate
20 change were established to provide a:

21 (1) Safe environment for residents and visitors;



S.B. NO. 930

- 1 (2) Healthy environment to promote human well-being and
- 2 sustainable ecosystem services;
- 3 (3) Productive environment to enable residents to thrive;
- 4 and
- 5 (4) Resilient environment able to withstand shocks to the
- 6 system.

7 The Hawai'i state planning act was amended in 2012 with the
8 addition of the climate change adaptation priority guidelines.
9 These guidelines were created to encourage the collaboration
10 needed to prepare the State to address the impacts of climate
11 change, including impacts to the areas of agriculture,
12 conservation lands, coastal and nearshore marine areas, natural
13 and cultural resources, education, energy, higher education,
14 health, historic preservation, water resources, the built
15 environment, and the economy.

16 In 2014, the Hawaii Climate Adaptation Initiative act was
17 signed into law. The Act was intended to protect the State's
18 economy, health, environment, and way of life by: establishing
19 the interagency climate adaptation committee, which was composed
20 of State and county government representatives and tasked with
21 developing a sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation report.



1 The Act also authorized the office of planning to coordinate the
2 development of a statewide climate adaptation plan and use this
3 report as a model framework for addressing other climate threats
4 and priorities.

5 In 2015, Hawai'i became the first state to require a one
6 hundred per cent renewable power supply by year 2045. The
7 legislature passed other climate mitigation measures during the
8 regular sessions of 2015 and 2016, including measures directing
9 all public schools and university campuses to become net zero
10 with respect to energy use by the year 2035; establishing the
11 Hawai'i community-based renewable energy program to make the
12 benefits of renewable energy generation accessible to a greater
13 number of Hawai'i residents; and designating a state hydrogen
14 implementation coordinator to promote fuel cell technology.

15 In 2017, the State expanded its efforts to further mitigate
16 and adapt to climate change. The interagency climate adaptation
17 committee was renamed the Hawai'i climate change mitigation and
18 adaptation commission and was assigned various tasks related to
19 climate change mitigation and adaptation, including
20 systematically reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving
21 Hawai'i's resiliency to climate change aligned with the



1 principals and contributing to the goals established by the 2014
2 Paris Agreement. Through these efforts, Hawai'i has established
3 a solid foundation for adapting to climate change; reducing
4 greenhouse gas emissions; and adopting strategies to protect the
5 State's economy, health, environment, and way of life.

6 In December 2017 the Hawai'i climate change mitigation and
7 adaptation commission produced the first Hawai'i sea level rise
8 vulnerability and adaptation report. The report identified
9 areas that are susceptible to sea level rise impacts based on a
10 3.2 foot increase in sea level projected to occur by mid-
11 century, or later. The report also made a number of
12 recommendations to state and county agencies based on emerging
13 good practices, designed to strengthen Hawai'i's overall
14 readiness to face sea level rise and climate change.

15 More recently, in 2018, the legislature passed additional
16 measures related to climate change, including measures
17 supporting the greenhouse gas sequestration task force;
18 establishing a carbon offset program within the office of
19 planning; and establishing a zero emissions clean energy target
20 by 2045, or earlier.



1 While Hawai'i has taken significant strides toward carbon
2 neutrality, over the past thirty years, the amount of carbon
3 dioxide in the atmosphere has increased by almost twenty per
4 cent, from three hundred forty-five parts per million (ppm) to
5 four hundred ten ppm. This trend is anticipated to continue for
6 several decades. Thus, even if Hawai'i achieves carbon
7 neutrality in the next twenty to thirty years, global carbon
8 emissions from developing countries will steadily increase over
9 this time. Despite the State's trailblazing accomplishments,
10 Hawai'i will not escape the severe effects of climate change. It
11 is therefore critical that Hawai'i brace for these effects by
12 implementing aggressive climate adaptation measures. Rapid
13 deployment of climate adaptation measures will require
14 supporting policies, legislation, and financial resources at all
15 levels of government.

16 The purpose of this Act is to support the Hawai'i climate
17 change mitigation and adaptation initiative by providing
18 affected agencies and departments of the state and county with
19 the necessary resources to implement this Act.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The Hawaii climate change mitigation and
2 adaptation commission shall assist the departments, offices, or
3 agencies of the State or its political subdivisions to:

4 (1) Develop sea level rise adaptation plans in accordance
5 with the sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation
6 report; and

7 (2) Provide education and outreach to any community in the
8 various counties regarding improving the community's
9 resiliency to climate change.

10 (b) Under the direction of the Hawaii climate change
11 mitigation and adaptation commission, the climate change
12 mitigation and adaptation coordinator shall assist the
13 departments, offices, or agencies of the State or its political
14 subdivisions to:

15 (1) Conduct an inventory of existing and planned state and
16 county facilities and determine if any facilities are
17 in or near a sea level rise exposure area;

18 (2) Prepare a report that includes a discussion of any
19 vulnerable facilities and the facilities' sensitivity
20 to sea level rise impacts;



1 (3) Prepare a budget that includes the cost of adapting to
2 sea level rise by avoiding or minimizing development
3 in the sea level rise exposure area; and

4 (4) Report all findings to the commission.

5 SECTION 3. (a) The Hawaii climate change mitigation and
6 adaptation commission shall assist the departments, offices, or
7 agencies of the State or its political subdivisions to implement
8 climate change mitigation efforts in accordance with state
9 policies.

10 (b) Under the direction of the Hawaii climate change
11 mitigation and adaptation commission, the climate change
12 mitigation and adaptation coordinator shall assist the
13 departments, offices, or agencies of the State or its political
14 subdivisions to:

15 (1) Conduct an inventory of state and county facilities
16 and vehicles and determine energy usage of the
17 facilities and vehicles;

18 (2) Prepare a report that includes the State's goals as
19 translated into goals for the departments, offices, or
20 agencies of the State or its political subdivisions,



1 and establishes one, three, and five-year action plans
2 necessary to achieve these goals;

3 (3) Supervise studies and help the departments, offices,
4 or agencies of the State or its political subdivisions
5 to take action to reduce mitigation including but not
6 limited to: parking cash out programs; clean fleet
7 transitions for the State and the various counties;
8 car share programs; the development and deployment of
9 electric vehicle infrastructure; and any other
10 necessary and relevant studies to inform commission
11 action;

12 (4) Initiate a public advertising campaign for a program
13 that will encourage behavioral changes that support
14 clean transportation and climate change issues; and

15 (5) Report all findings to the Hawaii climate change
16 mitigation and adaptation commission.

17 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
20 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
21 2020-2021 for the purposes of this Act.



S.B. NO. 930

1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$75,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2020-2021 to fund the climate change mitigation and adaptation
8 coordinator position established by Act 32, Session Laws of
9 Hawaii 2017.

10 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
11 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

13

INTRODUCED BY:

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten signature]
Karl Rhoads
[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]



S.B. NO. 930

Report Title:

Climate Change; Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission; Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Coordinator; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Hawaii climate change mitigation and adaptation commission and coordinator to assist the State and counties with developing and implementing various sea level rise adaptation plans and climate change mitigation efforts. Appropriate funds to support the Hawaii climate change initiative.

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

