

JAN 21 2011

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LAKE WILSON.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Wahiawa reservoir,  
2 commonly known as Lake Wilson, is Hawaii's largest reservoir  
3 with a 3,000,000,000 gallon capacity. Given its size, Lake  
4 Wilson could provide the water needed for the north shore of  
5 Oahu's agricultural expansion, but the condition and quality of  
6 the water today limits the crops produced on the north shore.  
7 Nearby landowners hold about 20,000 acres of land that can be  
8 used for agricultural production but is now limited to tree  
9 crops, corn, and other production items that can use R-2  
10 (disinfected secondary treated effluent) water. As a result the  
11 response to the demand for more food production in Hawaii has  
12 been limited by the land available and the quality of water for  
13 production.

14           The legislature further finds that stopping the inflow of  
15 treated effluence into the lake is particularly critical,  
16 because the plan to upgrade city and county of Honolulu water to  
17 R-1 (disinfected tertiary treated effluent) has not progressed  
18 to the point of a solution.



1           The north shore is the last haven for agricultural  
2 production on the island of Oahu, and the cleanup of the water  
3 within the lake will allow the expansion of agricultural  
4 production in the area. With land and clean water, farmers will  
5 be able to increase their production, add varieties of food  
6 crops, and contribute to Hawaii's goal of greater food  
7 sustainability. The cleanup of the lake will also lead to  
8 greater recreational opportunities, such as fishing, boating,  
9 and other water recreation activities.

10           The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to  
11 assess the current condition and quality of the waters of Lake  
12 Wilson and recommend actions to improve the water quality to  
13 acceptable levels.

14           SECTION 2. (a) There is established a Lake Wilson task  
15 force under the department and land and natural resources to  
16 assess the current condition and quality of the waters of Lake  
17 Wilson and recommend actions to improve the water quality to  
18 acceptable levels.

19           The task force shall include representatives from the:

- 20           (1) Department of land and natural resources;
- 21           (2) Department of health, division of environmental  
22           management;



- 1 (3) Department of agriculture;
- 2 (4) University of Hawaii;
- 3 (5) City and county of Honolulu;
- 4 (6) United States Army; and
- 5 (7) Landowners, lessees, and other private entities
- 6 associated with Lake Wilson.

7 The representative from the department and land and natural  
8 resources shall serve as the chair of the task force.

9 Members shall serve without compensation, but shall be  
10 reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary  
11 for the performance of their duties.

12 In the performance of its duties, the Lake Wilson task  
13 force shall consult with appropriate private, nonprofit,  
14 community, agricultural, and government stakeholders.

15 (b) The task force shall:

- 16 (1) Assess the current condition and quality of the waters  
17 of Lake Wilson and the impacts of various uses of and  
18 discharges into the lake;
- 19 (2) Determine the appropriate water quality level  
20 necessary to support agricultural, recreational, and  
21 other uses;



- 1           (3) Review the ownership, leases, use agreements, permits,  
2                   and regulatory oversight of the lake and parcels of  
3                   land abutting the lake;
- 4           (4) Review the current operations and maintenance of the  
5                   lake by all parties, and the expenditures related to  
6                   each;
- 7           (5) Review any plans for sale or lease of the lake or  
8                   parcels abutting the lake, and the current status of  
9                   the plans;
- 10          (6) Assess the resources, both fiscal and nonfiscal, and  
11                   actions necessary to ensure an appropriate water  
12                   quality level necessary to support agricultural,  
13                   recreational, and other uses; and
- 14          (7) Any other information that may be appropriate to  
15                   complete the assessment and any related  
16                   recommendations.
- 17          (c) The Lake Wilson task force shall submit a report of  
18                   its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
19                   legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior  
20                   to the convening of the regular session of 2012.

21           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
22                   revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$300,000 or so much



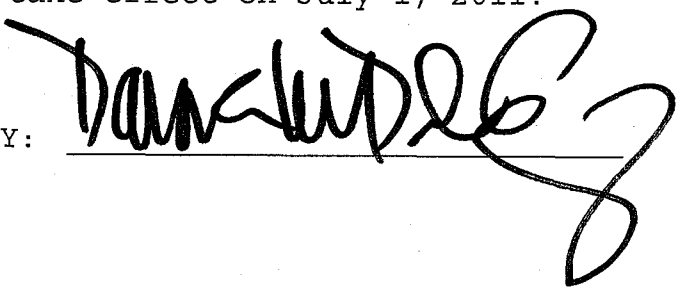
1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 for the  
2 Lake Wilson task force and its requirements under this Act.

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

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

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INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan W. Dole", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

**Report Title:**

Wahiawa Reservoir; Lake Wilson; Task Force; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a Lake Wilson task force to assess the current condition and quality of the waters of Lake Wilson and recommend actions to improve the water quality to acceptable levels; appropriates funds for the work of the task force.

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

