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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY ENVIRONMENTAL WORKFORCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the collapse of  
2 national credit, housing, financial, and other market sectors  
3 has culminated in the current national economic crisis, which  
4 continues to have consequences on the local economy, including  
5 significant losses in local construction, restaurant, and other  
6 industries. The legislature further finds that solutions for  
7 immediate relief will require unprecedented levels of  
8 cooperation between state and local governments and between  
9 public and private entities to realize bold yet productive  
10 proposals.

11           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the  
12 establishment of an emergency environmental workforce for short-  
13 term employment for individuals who are unemployed or  
14 underemployed due to the slow economic recovery. Individuals  
15 willing to accept the challenge of an emergency environmental  
16 workforce job will assist in the State's efforts to:

- 17           (1) Maintain and strengthen watersheds throughout the  
18           State;



1 (2) Eradicate the miconia plant, feral coffee trees, and  
2 other invasive plants; and

3 (3) Reduce coqui frog, coffee borer beetle, and fire ant  
4 populations.

5 The legislature intends for the revenues generated by  
6 general obligation bond authorizations and appropriations from  
7 the general fund made by this Act to be released only after at  
8 least sixty-five per cent of the total appropriations from  
9 various funds made by this Act have been released. The  
10 legislature further intends for the director of finance to have  
11 the discretion to determine when at least sixty-five per cent of  
12 the special and other fund appropriations have been made in a  
13 manner that fulfills the purpose of this Act.

14 SECTION 2. There is established the emergency  
15 environmental workforce to be attached to the research  
16 corporation of the University of Hawaii for administrative  
17 purposes. The emergency environmental workforce shall:

18 (1) Employ as six-month contract employees approximately  
19 five hundred to seven hundred fifty individuals who  
20 were terminated from their jobs as a result of the  
21 local economic downturn;



1           (2) Supplement the State's current services being provided  
2           for the maintenance and strengthening of watersheds  
3           throughout the State, eradication of the miconia plant  
4           and other invasive plants, and the reduction of coqui  
5           frog, coffee borer beetle, and fire ant populations;  
6           and

7           (3) Coordinate its efforts with the efforts of the  
8           department of agriculture, the department of land and  
9           natural resources, and the invasive species committees  
10          of Hawaii.

11          SECTION 3. The research corporation of the University of  
12          Hawaii shall:

13          (1) Together with the pacific cooperative studies unit of  
14          the University of Hawaii at Manoa, develop a planning,  
15          administration, implementation, and evaluation  
16          strategy, including a program duration plan and a  
17          budget for contract and administrative expenses for  
18          the sums appropriated;

19          (2) Develop a recruitment and public information plan, in  
20          consultation with private employers with workforces  
21          that have been or that may be affected by layoffs  
22          resulting from the economic downturn;



- 1 (3) Develop a strategy for the interviewing and selection
- 2 of emergency environmental workforce participants,
- 3 including physical examinations as necessary to
- 4 qualify applicants before final contract offers;
- 5 (4) Request that attorneys employed or retained by the
- 6 University of Hawaii prepare, on an expedited basis,
- 7 the necessary employment contracts to meet the
- 8 objectives of the emergency environmental workforce;
- 9 (5) Submit review and assessment reports to the governor,
- 10 the senate president, and the speaker of the house of
- 11 representatives every sixty days for the duration of
- 12 the emergency environmental workforce; and
- 13 (6) Undertake all other necessary activities for emergency
- 14 environmental workforce development and
- 15 implementation.

16 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the special land  
17 and development fund the sum of \$                    or so much thereof as  
18 may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to establish an  
19 emergency environmental workforce to be administered by the  
20 research corporation of the University of Hawaii.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
22 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this



1 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
2 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
3 University of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the forest and  
5 wildlife resources fund within the special land and development  
6 fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary  
7 for fiscal year 2012-2013 to establish an emergency  
8 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
9 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
11 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
12 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
13 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
14 University of Hawaii.

15 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the land  
16 conservation fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may  
17 be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to establish an emergency  
18 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
19 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

20 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
21 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
22 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior



1 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
2 University of Hawaii.

3 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the water resource  
4 management fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may  
5 be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to establish an emergency  
6 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
7 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
9 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
10 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
11 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
12 University of Hawaii.

13 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the natural area  
14 reserve fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be  
15 necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to establish an emergency  
16 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
17 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
19 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
20 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
21 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
22 University of Hawaii.



1 SECTION 9. There is appropriated out of the forest  
2 stewardship fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may  
3 be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to establish an emergency  
4 environmental workforce to be administered by the research  
5 corporation of the University of Hawaii.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
7 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
8 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
9 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
10 University of Hawaii.

11 SECTION 10. There is appropriated out of the pest  
12 inspection, quarantine, and eradication fund the sum of  
13 \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
14 2012-2013 to establish an emergency environmental workforce to  
15 be administered by the research corporation of the University of  
16 Hawaii.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
18 corporation of the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this  
19 Act; provided that no moneys shall be expended without the prior  
20 approval of the pacific cooperative studies unit of the  
21 University of Hawaii.



1 SECTION 11. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to carry  
4 out the purposes of this Act.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
6 corporation of the University of Hawaii; provided that no moneys  
7 shall be expended without the prior approval of the pacific  
8 cooperative studies unit of the University of Hawaii.

9 SECTION 12. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
10 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$ or so much  
11 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
12 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2012-2013  
13 for the emergency environmental workforce to:

- 14 (1) Fence lands and easements in the state conservation  
15 district to protect watershed lands; and  
16 (2) Mitigate invasive species.

17 The appropriation made for the capital improvement projects  
18 authorized by this section shall not lapse at the end of the  
19 fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is made; provided  
20 that all moneys from the appropriation unencumbered as of June  
21 30, 2014, shall lapse as of that date.





1           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the research  
2 corporation of the University of Hawaii; provided that no moneys  
3 shall be expended without the prior approval of the pacific  
4 cooperative studies unit of the University of Hawaii.

5           SECTION 13. The moneys appropriated from the general fund  
6 by section 11 of this Act and the revenues derived from the  
7 general obligation bonds authorized by section 12 of this Act  
8 shall be released and expended only when at least sixty-five per  
9 cent of the moneys appropriated from funds by sections 4, 5, 6,  
10 7, 8, 9, and 10 of this Act have been authorized for expenditure  
11 by the director of finance. For the purpose of determining the  
12 monetary amount that is at least sixty-five per cent of the  
13 moneys appropriated and allotted under sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8,  
14 9, and 10, the director of finance may aggregate the amounts  
15 authorized for expenditure from those funds.

16           SECTION 14. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



**Report Title:**

Environmental Workforce; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the emergency environmental workforce. Makes appropriations. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB2250 HD2)

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

