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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 171-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           "**§171-4 Board of land and natural resources; terms and**  
4 **qualifications of members of the board; organization; expenses.**

5 (a) The board of land and natural resources shall be composed  
6 of seven members, one from each land district and three at  
7 large, to be nominated and, by and with the advice and consent  
8 of the senate, appointed by the governor as provided in section  
9 26-34. The term and removal of a member of the board and the  
10 filling of a vacancy on the board shall also be as provided in  
11 section 26-34. There shall be not more than three members on  
12 the board from the same political party. At least one member of  
13 the board shall have a background in conservation and natural  
14 resources, as evidenced by:

15           (1) A college degree in a relevant field, including  
16 forestry, wildlife conservation, geology,  
17 environmental science, or marine biology; or



1 (2) Work history sufficient to demonstrate an appropriate  
2 level of knowledge in the subject of land and natural  
3 resources, including parks and recreation, public  
4 lands management, natural area reserves, aquatic  
5 resources, boating and recreation, forestry and  
6 wildlife, water resources management, or conservation  
7 and resources.

8 (b) At least one member of the board, other than the  
9 member with a background in conservation and natural resources  
10 appointed pursuant to subsection (a), shall have demonstrated  
11 expertise in native Hawaiian traditional and customary  
12 practices, as evidenced by:

13 (1) A college degree in a relevant field, such as Hawaiian  
14 studies, native Hawaiian law, native Hawaiian  
15 traditional and customary practices, or a related  
16 subject area;

17 (2) Work history that demonstrates an appropriate level of  
18 knowledge in native Hawaiian traditional and customary  
19 practices; or

20 (3) Substantial experience in native Hawaiian traditional  
21 and customary practices.

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1           ~~(b)~~ (c) Each member shall disclose and file with the  
2 board a list of all transactions with the department of land and  
3 natural resources in which the member has a direct interest.

4 The member shall also disclose all transactions with the  
5 department involving any corporation, association, partnership,  
6 or joint venture in which the member is an officer, partner, or  
7 employee. Any member having any interest, direct or indirect,  
8 in any matter before the board shall disqualify oneself from  
9 voting on or participating in the discussion of the matter.

10           ~~(e)~~ (d) The governor shall select a chairperson of the  
11 board from among its members. The chairperson shall call and  
12 preside at meetings and may appoint a member of the board as  
13 secretary. The members of the board shall choose one of their  
14 number to act as chairperson during the absence or disability of  
15 the chairperson.

16           ~~(d)~~ (e) The members of the board shall serve without pay  
17 but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses  
18 while attending meetings and while in the discharge of their  
19 duties."



1 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 3. This Act, upon its approval, shall take effect  
4 on July 1, 2014.



**Report Title:**

Board of Land and Natural Resources Membership; Native Hawaiian Traditional and Customary Practices

**Description:**

Amends the composition of the Board of Land and Natural Resources by requiring that at least one member shall have a background in native Hawaiian traditional and customary practices, who shall not be the same member with a background in conservation and natural resources. (SB2874 HD1)

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