A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO STORMWATER MANAGEMENT.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that climate change poses a significant threat to the economy and environment of the Hawaiian islands and has contributed to an eighteen per cent drop in precipitation over the past thirty years. This increasing drying trend, coupled with growth in the State's population, will likely raise the demand for water and compromise Hawaii's fresh water supplies over the coming decades. If Hawaii does not begin planning ahead, ensuring the islands' supply of fresh water in the future may cost the public a great deal as the cost of desalination and other alternatives rise.

The legislature further finds that changes in land use from forested areas to urban development and other human uses increase the amount of rain ending up as storm runoff instead of replenishing the State's aquifers. Encouraging the adoption of best practices and infrastructure investment by the counties to capture and retain rainfall in Hawaii for potable water before it becomes stormwater runoff that results in pollution to...
streams, wetlands, and near-shore ocean areas will save the
public significantly in the long run.

The purpose of this Act is to encourage the protection of
water resources by authorizing counties to charge user fees to
create and maintain stormwater management systems or
infrastructure.

SECTION 2. Section 46-1.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
amended to read as follows:

"§46-1.5 General powers and limitation of the counties.
Subject to general law, each county shall have the following
powers and shall be subject to the following liabilities and
limitations:

(1) Each county shall have the power to frame and adopt a
charter for its own self-government that shall
establish the county executive, administrative, and
legislative structure and organization, including but
not limited to the method of appointment or election
of officials, their duties, responsibilities, and
compensation, and the terms of their office;

(2) Each county shall have the power to provide for and
regulate the marking and lighting of all buildings and
other structures that may be obstructions or hazards
to aerial navigation, so far as may be necessary or proper for the protection and safeguarding of life, health, and property;

(3) Each county shall have the power to enforce all claims on behalf of the county and approve all lawful claims against the county, but shall be prohibited from entering into, granting, or making in any manner any contract, authorization, allowance payment, or liability contrary to the provisions of any county charter or general law;

(4) Each county shall have the power to make contracts and to do all things necessary and proper to carry into execution all powers vested in the county or any county officer;

(5) Each county shall have the power to:

(A) Maintain channels, whether natural or artificial, including their exits to the ocean, in suitable condition to carry off storm waters;

(B) Remove from the channels, and from the shores and beaches, any debris that is likely to create an unsanitary condition or become a public nuisance; provided that, to the extent any of the foregoing
work is a private responsibility, the responsibility may be enforced by the county in lieu of the work being done at public expense;

(C) Construct, acquire by gift, purchase, or by the exercise of eminent domain, reconstruct, improve, better, extend, and maintain projects or undertakings for the control of and protection against floods and flood waters, including the power to drain and rehabilitate lands already flooded; [and]

(D) Enact zoning ordinances providing that lands deemed subject to seasonable, periodic, or occasional flooding shall not be used for residence or other purposes in a manner as to endanger the health or safety of the occupants thereof, as required by the Federal Flood Insurance Act of 1956 (chapter 1025, Public Law 1016); and

(E) Establish and charge user fees to create and maintain any stormwater management system or infrastructure;
(6) Each county shall have the power to exercise the power
of condemnation by eminent domain when it is in the
public interest to do so;

(7) Each county shall have the power to exercise
regulatory powers over business activity as are
assigned to them by chapter 445 or other general law;

(8) Each county shall have the power to fix the fees and
charges for all official services not otherwise
provided for;

(9) Each county shall have the power to provide by
ordinance assessments for the improvement or
maintenance of districts within the county;

(10) Except as otherwise provided, no county shall have the
power to give or loan credit to, or in aid of, any
person or corporation, directly or indirectly, except
for a public purpose;

(11) Where not within the jurisdiction of the public
utilities commission, each county shall have the power
to regulate by ordinance the operation of motor
vehicle common carriers transporting passengers within
the county and adopt and amend rules the county deems
necessary for the public convenience and necessity;
(12) Each county shall have the power to enact and enforce ordinances necessary to prevent or summarily remove public nuisances and to compel the clearing or removal of any public nuisance, refuse, and uncultivated undergrowth from streets, sidewalks, public places, and unoccupied lots. In connection with these powers, each county may impose and enforce liens upon the property for the cost to the county of removing and completing the necessary work where the property owners fail, after reasonable notice, to comply with the ordinances. The authority provided by this paragraph shall not be self-executing, but shall become fully effective within a county only upon the enactment or adoption by the county of appropriate and particular laws, ordinances, or rules defining "public nuisances" with respect to each county's respective circumstances. The counties shall provide the property owner with the opportunity to contest the summary action and to recover the owner's property;

(13) Each county shall have the power to enact ordinances deemed necessary to protect health, life, and property, and to preserve the order and security of
the county and its inhabitants on any subject or matter not inconsistent with, or tending to defeat, the intent of any state statute where the statute does not disclose an express or implied intent that the statute shall be exclusive or uniform throughout the State;

(14) Each county shall have the power to:

(A) Make and enforce within the limits of the county all necessary ordinances covering all:

(i) Local police matters;

(ii) Matters of sanitation;

(iii) Matters of inspection of buildings;

(iv) Matters of condemnation of unsafe structures, plumbing, sewers, dairies, milk, fish, and morgues; and

(v) Matters of the collection and disposition of rubbish and garbage;

(B) Provide exemptions for homeless facilities and any other program for the homeless authorized by part XVII of chapter 346, for all matters under this paragraph;
(C) Appoint county physicians and sanitary and other
inspectors as necessary to carry into effect
ordinances made under this paragraph, who shall
have the same power as given by law to agents of
the department of health, subject only to
limitations placed on them by the terms and
conditions of their appointments; and

(D) Fix a penalty for the violation of any ordinance,
which penalty may be a misdemeanor, petty
misdemeanor, or violation as defined by general
law;

(15) Each county shall have the power to provide public
pounds; to regulate the impounding of stray animals
and fowl, and their disposition; and to provide for
the appointment, powers, duties, and fees of animal
control officers;

(16) Each county shall have the power to purchase and
otherwise acquire, lease, and hold real and personal
property within the defined boundaries of the county
and to dispose of the real and personal property as
the interests of the inhabitants of the county may
require, except that:
(A) Any property held for school purposes may not be disposed of without the consent of the superintendent of education;

(B) No property bordering the ocean shall be sold or otherwise disposed of; and

(C) All proceeds from the sale of park lands shall be expended only for the acquisition of property for park or recreational purposes;

(17) Each county shall have the power to provide by charter for the prosecution of all offenses and to prosecute for offenses against the laws of the State under the authority of the attorney general of the State;

(18) Each county shall have the power to make appropriations in amounts deemed appropriate from any moneys in the treasury, for the purpose of:

(A) Community promotion and public celebrations;

(B) The entertainment of distinguished persons as may from time to time visit the county;

(C) The entertainment of other distinguished persons, as well as, public officials when deemed to be in the best interest of the community; and
(D) The rendering of civic tribute to individuals who, by virtue of their accomplishments and community service, merit civic commendations, recognition, or remembrance;

(19) Each county shall have the power to:

(A) Construct, purchase, take on lease, lease, sublease, or in any other manner acquire, manage, maintain, or dispose of buildings for county purposes, sewers, sewer systems, pumping stations, waterworks, including reservoirs, wells, pipelines, and other conduits for distributing water to the public, lighting plants, and apparatus and appliances for lighting streets and public buildings, and manage, regulate, and control the same;

(B) Regulate and control the location and quality of all appliances necessary to the furnishing of water, heat, light, power, telephone, and telecommunications service to the county;

(C) Acquire, regulate, and control any and all appliances for the sprinkling and cleaning of the
streets and the public ways, and for flushing the
sewers; and

(D) Open, close, construct, or maintain county
highways or charge toll on county highways;
provided that all revenues received from a toll
charge shall be used for the construction or
maintenance of county highways;

(20) Each county shall have the power to regulate the
renting, subletting, and rental conditions of property
for places of abode by ordinance;

(21) Unless otherwise provided by law, each county shall
have the power to establish by ordinance the order of
succession of county officials in the event of a
military or civil disaster;

(22) Each county shall have the power to sue and be sued in
its corporate name;

(23) Each county shall have the power to establish and
maintain waterworks and sewer works; to collect rates
for water supplied to consumers and for the use of
sewers; to install water meters whenever deemed
expedient; provided that owners of premises having
vested water rights under existing laws appurtenant to
the premises shall not be charged for the installation
or use of the water meters on the premises; to take
over from the State existing waterworks systems,
including water rights, pipelines, and other
appurtenances belonging thereto, and sewer systems,
and to enlarge, develop, and improve the same;

(24) (A) Each county may impose civil fines, in addition
to criminal penalties, for any violation of
county ordinances or rules after reasonable
notice and requests to correct or cease the
violation have been made upon the violator. Any
administratively imposed civil fine shall not be
collected until after an opportunity for a
hearing under chapter 91. Any appeal shall be
filed within thirty days from the date of the
final written decision. These proceedings shall
not be a prerequisite for any civil fine or
injunctive relief ordered by the circuit court;

(B) Each county by ordinance may provide for the
addition of any unpaid civil fines, ordered by
any court of competent jurisdiction, to any
taxes, fees, or charges, with the exception of
fees or charges for water for residential use and sewer charges, collected by the county. Each county by ordinance may also provide for the addition of any unpaid administratively imposed civil fines, which remain due after all judicial review rights under section 91-14 are exhausted, to any taxes, fees, or charges, with the exception of water for residential use and sewer charges, collected by the county. The ordinance shall specify the administrative procedures for the addition of the unpaid civil fines to the eligible taxes, fees, or charges and may require hearings or other proceedings. After addition of the unpaid civil fines to the taxes, fees, or charges, the unpaid civil fines shall not become a part of any taxes, fees, or charges. The county by ordinance may condition the issuance or renewal of a license, approval, or permit for which a fee or charge is assessed, except for water for residential use and sewer charges, on payment of the unpaid civil fines. Upon recordation of a notice of unpaid civil fines in
the bureau of conveyances, the amount of the
civil fines, including any increase in the amount
of the fine which the county may assess, shall
constitute a lien upon all real property or
rights to real property belonging to any person
liable for the unpaid civil fines. The lien in
favor of the county shall be subordinate to any
lien in favor of any person recorded or
registered prior to the recordation of the notice
of unpaid civil fines and senior to any lien
recorded or registered after the recordation of
the notice. The lien shall continue until the
unpaid civil fines are paid in full or until a
certificate of release or partial release of the
lien, prepared by the county at the owner's
expense, is recorded. The notice of unpaid civil
fines shall state the amount of the fine as of
the date of the notice and maximum permissible
daily increase of the fine. The county shall not
be required to include a social security number,
state general excise taxpayer identification
number, or federal employer identification number
on the notice. Recordation of the notice in the bureau of conveyances shall be deemed, at such time, for all purposes and without any further action, to procure a lien on land registered in land court under chapter 501. After the unpaid civil fines are added to the taxes, fees, or charges as specified by county ordinance, the unpaid civil fines shall be deemed immediately due, owing, and delinquent and may be collected in any lawful manner. The procedure for collection of unpaid civil fines authorized in this paragraph shall be in addition to any other procedures for collection available to the State and county by law or rules of the courts;

(C) Each county may impose civil fines upon any person who places graffiti on any real or personal property owned, managed, or maintained by the county. The fine may be up to $1,000 or may be equal to the actual cost of having the damaged property repaired or replaced. The parent or guardian having custody of a minor who places graffiti on any real or personal property
owned, managed, or maintained by the county shall
be jointly and severally liable with the minor
for any civil fines imposed hereunder. Any such
fine may be administratively imposed after an
opportunity for a hearing under chapter 91, but
such a proceeding shall not be a prerequisite for
any civil fine ordered by any court. As used in
this subparagraph, "graffiti" means any
unauthorized drawing, inscription, figure, or
mark of any type intentionally created by paint,
ink, chalk, dye, or similar substances;

(D) At the completion of an appeal in which the
county's enforcement action is affirmed and upon
correction of the violation if requested by the
violator, the case shall be reviewed by the
county agency that imposed the civil fines to
determine the appropriateness of the amount of
the civil fines that accrued while the appeal
proceedings were pending. In its review of the
amount of the accrued fines, the county agency
may consider:
The nature and egregiousness of the violation;

(ii) The duration of the violation;

(iii) The number of recurring and other similar violations;

(iv) Any effort taken by the violator to correct the violation;

(v) The degree of involvement in causing or continuing the violation;

(vi) Reasons for any delay in the completion of the appeal; and

(vii) Other extenuating circumstances.

The civil fine that is imposed by administrative order after this review is completed and the violation is corrected shall be subject to judicial review, notwithstanding any provisions for administrative review in county charters;

(E) After completion of a review of the amount of accrued civil fine by the county agency that imposed the fine, the amount of the civil fine determined appropriate, including both the initial civil fine and any accrued daily civil
fine, shall immediately become due and
collectible following reasonable notice to the
violator. If no review of the accrued civil fine
is requested, the amount of the civil fine, not
to exceed the total accrual of civil fine prior
to correcting the violation, shall immediately
become due and collectible following reasonable
notice to the violator, at the completion of all
appeal proceedings;

(F) If no county agency exists to conduct appeal
proceedings for a particular civil fine action
taken by the county, then one shall be
established by ordinance before the county shall
impose the civil fine;

(25) Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, any county
mayor, by executive order, may exempt donors, provider
agencies, homeless facilities, and any other program
for the homeless under part XVII of chapter 346 from
real property taxes, water and sewer development fees,
rates collected for water supplied to consumers and
for use of sewers, and any other county taxes,
charges, or fees; provided that any county may enact
ordinances to regulate and grant the exemptions

granted by this paragraph;

(26) Any county may establish a captive insurance company

pursuant to article 19, chapter 431; and

(27) Each county shall have the power to enact and enforce

ordinances regulating towing operations."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed

and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
Report Title:
Stormwater Management; Counties; User Fees

Description:
Authorizes the counties to establish and charge user fees for stormwater management. (SD1)

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