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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is  
2 overwhelming evidence that human activities are altering the  
3 earth's climate and that climate change will have significant  
4 local and global health impacts. Climate change and related  
5 health impacts transcend national borders and it is probable  
6 that climate change health impacts in other countries will  
7 affect the health of people throughout the United States,  
8 including Hawai'i. Famine, drought, extreme weather events, and  
9 regional conflicts, all likely consequences of climate change,  
10 increase the incidence of disease and contribute to various  
11 adverse health impacts, making it imperative to address climate  
12 change at the national and local level. Climate change will  
13 affect the health of people globally and in Hawai'i and it is  
14 imperative to mitigate the health-related impacts.

15           The legislature further finds that as a result of Hawai'i's  
16 unique geographic location and isolation, Hawai'i is particularly  
17 vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including



1 contamination or decrease in the water, food, and energy supply.  
2 Various potential health impacts of climate change include  
3 respiratory allergies, airway diseases, food-borne diseases,  
4 biotoxin exposure, heat-related illnesses, cancer,  
5 cardiovascular diseases, vector-borne diseases, and waterborne  
6 diseases. Yet, Hawai'i's health community lacks the knowledge  
7 and training required to prepare for and respond to various  
8 potential health impacts of climate change.

9 The purpose of this Act is to require the interagency  
10 climate adaptation committee to:

- 11 (1) Assist with coordinating the implementation of climate  
12 change policies developed by county, state, and  
13 federal agencies; and  
14 (2) Prepare public health vulnerability and adaptation  
15 reports to assist the State's health professionals  
16 effectively and efficiently prepare for and respond to  
17 various potential health impacts of climate change.

18 SECTION 2. Section 225P-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 " [f] §225P-3 [f] Interagency climate adaptation committee;  
21 general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is



1 established an interagency climate adaptation committee that  
2 shall be placed within the department of land and natural  
3 resources for administrative purposes only.

4 (b) Coordination of the committee shall be headed jointly  
5 by the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources,  
6 or the chairperson's designee, and the director of the office of  
7 planning, or the director's designee. ~~[Among the various  
8 potential impacts of climate change, the committee shall, as a  
9 first step, focus on and develop sea level rise vulnerability  
10 and adaptation reports that shall include:~~

- 11 ~~(1) Identification of the major areas of sea level rise  
12 impacts affecting the State and counties through 2050;~~
- 13 ~~(2) Identification of expected impacts of sea level rise  
14 based on the latest scientific research for each area  
15 through 2050;~~
- 16 ~~(3) Identification of the economic ramifications of sea  
17 level rise;~~
- 18 ~~(4) Identification of applicable federal laws, policies,  
19 or programs that impact affected areas; and~~



1       ~~(5) Recommendations for planning, management, and~~  
2           ~~adaptation for hazards associated with increasing sea~~  
3           ~~level rise.~~

4       ~~The report shall be made publicly available no later than~~  
5       ~~December 31, 2017.]~~

6           [+] (c) [+] The committee shall include the following  
7 members:

- 8           (1) The chairs of the standing committees of the  
9           legislature with subject matter jurisdiction  
10          encompassing environmental protection and land use;
- 11          (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural  
12          resources or the chairperson's designee, who shall be  
13          the co-chair of the committee;
- 14          (3) The director of the office of planning or the  
15          director's designee, who shall be the co-chair of the  
16          committee;
- 17          (4) The director of business, economic development, and  
18          tourism or the director's designee;
- 19          (5) The chairperson of the board of directors of the  
20          Hawaii tourism authority or the chairperson's  
21          designee;



- 1 (6) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the  
2 chairperson's designee;
- 3 (7) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian  
4 affairs or the officer's designee;
- 5 (8) The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission or  
6 the chairperson's designee;
- 7 (9) The director of transportation or the director's  
8 designee;
- 9 (10) The director of health or the director's designee;
- 10 (11) The adjutant general or the adjutant general's  
11 designee;
- 12 (12) The chairperson of the board of education or the  
13 chairperson's designee;
- 14 (13) The directors of each of the county planning  
15 departments, or the directors' designees; and
- 16 (14) The manager of the coastal zone management program.
- 17 [+](d)[+] In addition to the members listed in subsection  
18 (c), the chairs of the committee may request the participation  
19 or input of members of the public; experts in the field; and  
20 county, state, or federal officials, as necessary [~~for the~~  
21 ~~formulation of the report.~~



1       ~~[(e)] In developing the report, the committee shall:~~  
2       ~~(1) Solicit public views and concerns, and~~  
3       ~~(2) Coordinate with the various county, state, and federal~~  
4               ~~agencies involved in ongoing climate change adaptation~~  
5               ~~planning initiatives.~~

6       ~~[(f)] The committee shall reevaluate and update the sea~~  
7       ~~level rise vulnerability and adaptation report every five~~  
8       ~~years].~~

9       ~~[(g)]~~ (e) The members of the committee shall serve  
10       without pay but shall be reimbursed for their actual and  
11       necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in  
12       carrying out their duties.

13       (f) The committee shall:  
14       (1) Assist with coordinating the implementation of climate  
15               change policies developed by the various county,  
16               state, and federal agencies involved in ongoing  
17               climate change adaptation planning initiatives; and  
18       (2) Develop climate change reports and recommendations, to  
19               be made publicly available no later than December 31,  
20               2017, and shall reevaluate the recommendations and



1 update the reports every five years. The reports  
2 shall include:

3 (A) Sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation  
4 reports, prepared in coordination with the office  
5 of planning, which shall include:

6 (i) Identification of the major areas of sea  
7 level rise impacts affecting the State and  
8 counties through 2050;

9 (ii) Identification of expected impacts of sea  
10 level rise based upon the latest scientific  
11 research for each area identified under  
12 clause (i) through 2050;

13 (iii) Identification of the economic ramifications  
14 of sea level rise;

15 (iv) Identification of applicable federal laws,  
16 policies, or programs that impact affected  
17 areas identified under clause (i); and

18 (v) Recommendations for planning, management,  
19 and adaptation for hazards associated with  
20 increasing sea level rise; and



1           (B) Public health vulnerability and adaptation  
2           reports to assist the State's health  
3           professionals effectively and efficiently prepare  
4           for and respond to various potential health  
5           impacts of climate change, prepared in  
6           coordination with the Hawaii Public Health  
7           Association and other stakeholders identified by  
8           the committee, which shall include:

9           (i) Developing, integrating, and maintaining  
10           state and regional disease surveillance and  
11           monitoring systems to respond to various  
12           potential health impacts of climate change,  
13           including but not limited to water and food  
14           safety and security, vector-borne infectious  
15           disease, respiratory and cardiovascular  
16           health, mental and behavioral health, and  
17           community or population-specific health;

18           (ii) Creating evidence-based tools to predict and  
19           monitor the public health impacts of climate  
20           change in the State;





- 1           (iii) Identifying and prioritizing communities and  
2                           populations that may be vulnerable to  
3                           various potential health impacts of climate  
4                           change, and developing a strategy to inform  
5                           and protect these communities and  
6                           populations;
- 7           (iv) Developing and recommending programs for  
8                           public health care professionals and the  
9                           public to promote climate-change  
10                          preparedness and response strategies related  
11                          to public health;
- 12           (v) Developing and recommending ways to  
13                           strengthen the workforce's ability to  
14                           prepare for and respond to the various  
15                           potential health impacts of climate change  
16                           by expanding and training the public health  
17                           workforce; and
- 18           (vi) Developing and recommending ways to advance,  
19                           implement, and support state and local  
20                           preparedness, including communication and  
21                           response plans.



1        (g) In developing reports and recommendations, the  
2 committee shall:

3        (1) Solicit public views and concerns; and

4        (2) Coordinate with the various county, state, and federal  
5 agencies involved in ongoing climate change adaptation  
6 planning initiatives."

7        SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9        SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee; Duties; Reports

**Description:**

Requires the interagency climate adaptation committee to assist with coordinating the implementation of climate change policies developed by county, state, and federal agencies. Requires the committee to prepare public health vulnerability and adaptation reports to assist the State's health professionals effectively and efficiently prepare for and respond to various potential health impacts of climate change. (HD1)

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