

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE MITIGATION OF HAZARDOUS SITUATIONS STATEWIDE.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 127A-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
2 authorizes the Governor to designate state employees, agents,  
3 contractors, or representatives, when no emergency exists, to  
4 enter private property at reasonable times to mitigate  
5 situations deemed by the Governor to be hazardous to the health  
6 and safety of the public. The landowner and occupier are given  
7 notice and a reasonable opportunity to mitigate the hazardous  
8 situation without assistance of the State. If state assistance  
9 is required, the State may seek recovery and reimbursement of  
10 costs and expenses.

11           This program has proven to be very effective in mitigating  
12 hazards within the State. As of November 30, 2016, a total of  
13 598 cases were received, of which 474 were resolved and closed.  
14 The majority of these closed cases resulted from outreach and  
15 mediation efforts by the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency  
16 between the complainant and property owner. During the 2016  
17 Tropical Storm Darby event, minimal damage was reported by the



1 counties from downed Albizia trees and other hazards. This is  
2 in sharp contrast to the major damage to highways, power lines,  
3 and homes caused by downed Albizia trees on the island of Hawaii  
4 during Tropical Storm Iselle in 2014. This improvement was due  
5 largely to the mitigation of hazardous situations program and  
6 other culling projects conducted by the counties and other  
7 organizations.

8 Funding for this program in the amount of \$1,000,000 was  
9 appropriated by Act 122, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014. This  
10 funding will lapse on June 30, 2017. As of November 30, 2016,  
11 approximately \$300,000 of the funding has been obligated with  
12 \$700,000 remaining. The purpose of this Act is to extend the  
13 lapse date to June 30, 2019 to allow these remaining funds to be  
14 available for the program.

15 SECTION 2. Act 134, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, as  
16 amended by Act 122, Session Laws of Hawaii 2014, is amended by  
17 amending section 26.1 to read as follows:

18 "SECTION 26.1. Provided that of the general fund  
19 appropriation for amelioration of physical disaster (DEF 110),  
20 the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for  
21 fiscal year 2014-2015 shall be expended for the purpose of



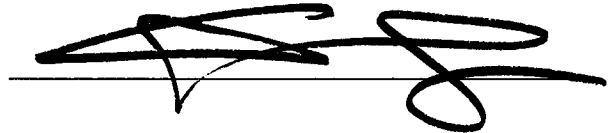
1 mitigating hazardous situations statewide in accordance with  
 2 section [~~128-10.3~~] 127A-18, Hawaii Revised Statutes; provided  
 3 further that any funds not expended for this purpose shall not  
 4 lapse to the general fund at the end of the fiscal year  
 5 appropriated but shall be carried forward into subsequent years;  
 6 and provided further that any unexpended funds shall lapse to  
 7 the general fund on June 30, [~~2017~~] 2019."

8 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
 9 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 29, 2017.

11

INTRODUCED BY:


 A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke, positioned above a thin horizontal line.

JAN 19 2017



# H.B. NO. 144

**Report Title:**

Mitigation of Hazardous Situations Statewide

**Description:**

Extends the lapse date for the mitigating of hazardous situations appropriation from June 30, 2017 to June 30, 2019.

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

