
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS FOR WATER REUSE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that for centuries,
2 Hawai'i has been blessed with consistent rainfall, advantageous
3 geology for aquifers, and high quality drinking water stores.
4 Recent findings, however, raise concerns about the long-term
5 fresh water security for the State as members of the scientific
6 community, including the University of Hawai'i, have documented
7 troubling trends including reduced rainfall, higher evaporation
8 rates, and declining stream flows. Evidence suggests that
9 rainfall has decreased twenty-two per cent in Hawai'i over the
10 last thirty years, and while computer models differ markedly in
11 their predictions regarding precipitation patterns and water
12 availability in Hawai'i over the coming decades, the unmistakable
13 observed trend is one of decreasing rainfall and increased
14 incidence of drought. If the current trend holds, in 2030
15 Hawai'i will receive only seventy-five per cent of the rain that
16 it received in 1985. As Hawai'i enters an era of fresh water



1 uncertainty, time is limited to preserve fresh water supplies
2 through water conservation, recharge, and reuse.

3 The legislature further finds that for water reuse, the use
4 of recycled water from non-potable applications has proven safe
5 and feasible under the existing regulatory regime in Hawai'i and
6 many other states, as well as in other industrialized nations of
7 the world. Increasing the use of recycled water has proven to
8 be most successful where governmental incentives and mandates
9 are in place as stimuli for the needed investments by providers
10 of recycled water and acceptance by users of recycled water.

11 In order to advance water reuse in Hawai'i, pursuant to
12 H.C.R. No. 86, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2018, the department
13 of health convened a water reuse task force to identify barriers
14 and solutions to expanded water reuse in the State. Task force
15 participants included representatives from the senate and house
16 of representatives, department of health, board of land and
17 natural resources' commission on water resource management,
18 board of agriculture, the counties, Honolulu board of water
19 supply, Hawai'i Fresh Water Council, and Hawai'i Community
20 Foundation. The task force agreed that in order to increase
21 water reuse in Hawai'i, demonstration projects must be developed



1 to raise awareness about the safety and feasibility of water
 2 recycling. The task force specifically identified several water
 3 reuse demonstration projects, which were chosen for their
 4 readiness, public outreach capacity, high visibility,
 5 innovation, and high volume of water reuse.

6 The purpose of this Act is to authorize the issuance of
 7 general obligation bonds to make capital improvements to the
 8 State's water reuse systems.

9 SECTION 2. 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 2019-2020
 13 for the purpose of capital improvement projects for water reuse
 14 systems as follows:

- 15 1. Kanaha beach park greywater reuse demonstration
 16 project.
- | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|----|
| 17 | Installation | \$ | |
| 18 | Updates and improvements | \$ | |
| 19 | Total funding | | \$ |



Report Title:

Water Reuse Demonstration Projects; CIP; GO Bond

Description:

Authorizes general obligation bonds for capital improvements to the State's water reuse systems. (HB445 HD1)

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