
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 **"CHAPTER**

5 **STATE EMPLOYEE AIR TRAVEL CARBON REMOVAL PROGRAM**

6 **§ -1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

7 "Agency" means an internal division of a branch of state
8 government, such as a department, division, branch, agency,
9 program, or office, and includes the judiciary and the office of
10 Hawaiian affairs.

11 "Canoe plants" means plant species originally brought to
12 Hawaii by ancient Polynesian peoples and shall be considered
13 native to Hawaii for the purposes of this chapter.

14 "Carbon removal" means a reduction in carbon dioxide or
15 other greenhouse gases in, or emitted into, the atmosphere that
16 is achieved by, or on behalf of, a person or entity to
17 compensate for emissions of greenhouse gases resulting from



1 another activity undertaken by such person or entity. "Carbon
2 removal" includes but is not limited to actions that reduce
3 future greenhouse gas emissions or remove greenhouse gases from
4 the atmosphere.

5 "Department" means the department of land and natural
6 resources.

7 "Employee" means an employee of the State including all
8 permanent employees of the executive, judicial, and legislative
9 branches. The term also includes legislative session staff.

10 "Greenhouse gas" means any of the following gases: carbon
11 dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, sulfur hexaflouride,
12 hydrofluorocarbons, and perfluorocarbons.

13 **§ -2 State employee air travel carbon removal program.**

14 (a) The governor, president of the senate, speaker of the house
15 of representatives, chief justice, and chairperson of the office
16 of Hawaiian affairs shall establish a policy for their
17 respective branches of state government that requires all
18 agencies to participate in an employee air travel carbon removal
19 program established and administered by the department to remove
20 carbon emissions caused by air travel undertaken by an employee
21 of an agency in performance of the employee's official duties.



1 The fee for carbon removal required for an employee trip, as
2 determined by the department under subsection (b), shall be paid
3 to the department by the agency whose employee made the trip.

4 (b) The state employee air travel carbon removal program
5 to be established and administered by the department pursuant to
6 subsection (a) shall include:

7 (1) A procedure for determining the amount of carbon
8 dioxide emissions in metric tons that result from air
9 travel by a single airline passenger, based on the
10 average fuel consumption and corresponding carbon
11 dioxide emission per kilometer traveled for the
12 aircraft in which the single airline passenger
13 traveled, passenger capacity of the aircraft, and
14 distance traveled;

15 (2) Carbon dioxide-reducing projects to be implemented by
16 or on behalf of the department from fees required
17 under this section, which may include but not be
18 limited to projects for the reforestation of degraded
19 areas of Hawaii by planting trees native to Hawaii
20 such as koa varieties, sandalwood varieties including



- 1 Iliahi, Laauala, Wahieala, Aoa, Aahi, and canoe
2 plants;
- 3 (3) A methodology to determine the:
- 4 (A) Amount in metric tons of carbon dioxide, or the
5 carbon dioxide equivalent of other greenhouse
6 gases, to be eliminated from future emissions or
7 to be absorbed from the atmosphere by carbon
8 removal program projects; and
- 9 (B) Cost, including materials, labor, and
10 administrative costs, per unit metric ton of
11 carbon dioxide reduction;
- 12 (4) A procedure, based on the information developed
13 through paragraphs (1) to (3), for calculating the fee
14 to be assessed to an agency for the amount of carbon
15 removal in metric tons that is equivalent to the
16 amount of carbon dioxide emissions attributable to a
17 specific airline trip by an employee of the agency;
18 and
- 19 (5) A record system to track the allocation of carbon
20 emission reductions from carbon removal program
21 projects to specific carbon removal requests for



1 employee trips and the remaining carbon removal
2 capacity of any project for future carbon removal
3 requests.

4 (c) Fees received by the department from state agencies
5 for carbon removal provided under this section for employee air
6 travel shall be used by the department to defray the costs of
7 projects implemented through the carbon removal program.

8 (d) In administering the state employee air travel carbon
9 removal program, the department may contract with public or
10 private entities to implement carbon removal program projects,
11 such as the planting of trees.

12 (e) The department may adopt rules, pursuant to chapter
13 91, to effectuate the purposes of this chapter."

14 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

State Employees; Air Travel; DLNR; Carbon Removal Program

Description:

Requires state agencies to participate in a carbon removal program to reduce carbon emissions caused by their employees' air travel. Requires DLNR to establish and administer a state employees air travel carbon removal program that imposes a fee to implement carbon removal projects. Takes effect on 7/1/2050.
(HD1)

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