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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE COMPTROLLER.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the coronavirus  
2 disease 2019 pandemic has required many state employees to work  
3 from home or other remote locations to maintain social  
4 distancing and prevent the spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

5 However, the relocation of state employees to non-traditional  
6 work environments has left an indelible impression on the  
7 possibilities of how state work can be accomplished.

8           The legislature has also determined that working from home  
9 or other off-worksites locations has demonstrated the cost-  
10 effectiveness and productivity of public services. Remote  
11 teleworking can and should continue to remain an important  
12 option for state employees who can accomplish their duties  
13 outside of their traditional work environment. Social  
14 distancing and decreasing employees' physical presence in state  
15 facilities can continue to provide a defense against the spread  
16 of infectious disease as well as enable more cost-efficient use  
17 of state office facilities.



1           The legislature also finds that employees working off-site  
2 enables the State to make better use of its limited resources,  
3 including but not limited to office space, furnishing,  
4 equipment, electrical and data requirements, storage space, and  
5 other traditional needs of employees who work at state  
6 facilities. State facilities can also be adjusted and  
7 consolidated to accommodate workers from various state agencies  
8 at single locations. Employees who can accomplish the same work  
9 from an off-site location may prefer to work at home to  
10 accommodate the caregiving of keiki and kupuna. These  
11 considerations can result in a win-win outcome for both  
12 taxpayers and state employees.

13           The purpose of this Act is to add, as part of the  
14 Comptroller's state facilities management responsibilities  
15 assessing and determining office space requirements, authorizing  
16 space allocation, and determining telework infrastructure  
17 requirements for tenants in buildings managed by the department  
18 of accounting and general services.

19           SECTION 2. Chapter 40, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
20 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
21 read as follows:



1        "§40-    Office Space Management.    For state agencies  
2 occupying facilities managed by the department of accounting and  
3 general services, the comptroller shall:

- 4        (1)    Assess and determine office space requirements;
- 5        (2)    Initiate and cancel new leases upon the determination  
6                of each agency's requirements;
- 7        (3)    Renegotiate existing leases;
- 8        (4)    Authorize office space allocation; and
- 9        (5)    Determine infrastructure requirements to allow  
10                employees to telework."

11        SECTION 3.    New statutory material is underscored.

12        SECTION 4.    This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Comptroller; Office Space Management; Leases; Telework

**Description:**

Expands Comptroller's duties to include the assessment of office space, including initiating, canceling, and renegotiating current and new leases, office space allocation, and telework infrastructure requirements for agencies and employees occupying facilities managed by the Department of Accounting and General Services. (SD1)

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