
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CORONAVIRUS TESTING AT AIRPORTS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that amid rising cases of
2 coronavirus in the United States and globally, the State of
3 Hawaii allows visitors to fly into the state if they comply with
4 the Hawaii Safe Travels Program. This mainly requires visitors
5 to show documentation of a negative covid-19 test result from a
6 certified test site, no more than 72 hours prior to a flight's
7 departure to Hawaii, otherwise, they are subject to a 10-day
8 mandatory quarantine.

9 The legislature finds that the covid-19 testing
10 requirements of this program do not guarantee that any incoming
11 traveler is free from the virus. Time spent in transportation,
12 airport security, terminals, and inside airplanes with other
13 individuals who may not have taken a covid-19 test, are all risk
14 factors for contracting the virus within the 72-hour time span.

15 The legislature finds that several airports in the nation
16 have rapid testing sites conveniently available on site. In San
17 Francisco, California, Dignity Health-GoHealth Urgent Care's



1 partnership with the San Francisco International Airport
2 provides the covid-19 nucleic acid amplification test using
3 Abbott's ID NOW technology, with results available in
4 approximately 15 minutes. Similarly, in Los Angeles, California,
5 the Los Angeles International Airport's partnership with Clarity
6 Labs offers standard nasal swab Polymerase Chain Reaction tests.

7 The legislature finds that Hawaii's science and technology
8 sectors are at the forefront of rapid testing research and
9 development. Local science and technology company Oceanit,
10 partnered with the University of Hawaii and the Queen's Medical
11 Center, has developed the ASSURE-19 rapid covid-19 test which
12 uses an artificial intelligence designed molecule to seek out
13 proteins in the SARS-CoV-2 virus without special laboratory
14 equipment, delivering results in a matter of minutes. Although
15 clinical testing and emergency use authorization by the federal
16 Food and Drug Administration is still underway, the legislature
17 finds that tests such as ASSURE-19 would be an effective tool in
18 mitigating the spread of the virus and protecting public health.

19 The legislature finds that requiring rapid covid-19 testing
20 for all incoming visitors and residents is an effective
21 safeguard to ensure that all incoming travelers are free from



1 covid-19 upon immediate arrival in the state of Hawaii. This
2 requirement is especially crucial in the state's economic
3 recovery and reopening, as it reassures the public that it can
4 be done with minimal risk of covid-19 spread. Currently, none of
5 the airports operated by the Hawaii state department of
6 transportation offer on-site, rapid testing for covid-19 for
7 incoming visitors and residents.

8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
9 funds to establish safe, effective, and reliable testing sites
10 to conduct rapid covid-19 tests at all airports operated by the
11 department of transportation with flights arriving from the
12 continental United States and internationally, ensuring that no
13 traveler who leaves these airports are at risk of spreading
14 covid-19 to the public.

15 SECTION 2. The department of transportation, in
16 collaboration with the department of health, shall establish
17 covid-19 testing sites at all airports operated by the
18 department of transportation with flights arriving from the
19 continental United States and internationally. Rapid testing
20 shall be conducted for all individuals over the age of five who
21 arrive from the continental United States or internationally, to



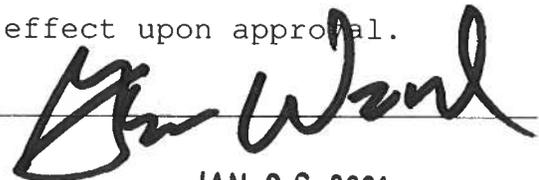
1 any airport in the State of Hawaii operated by the department of
2 transportation, and test results shall be available to the
3 traveler no later than 2 hours after the test is performed.

4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the
7 funds to purchase rapid covid-19 nucleic acid amplification
8 tests, laboratory equipment, personal protective equipment, and
9 other equipment deemed necessary to conduct rapid covid-19
10 testing.

11 The funds appropriated shall be expended by the department
12 of transportation for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 26 2021



H.B. NO. 1189

Report Title:

Coronavirus; Health; Airports; Travel; Tourism; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the department of transportation, in collaboration with the department of health, to establish covid-19 testing sites and conduct rapid testing at all airports operated by the department of transportation with flights arriving from the continental United States and internationally. Appropriates funds.

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