
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A STATE PERMITTING OFFICE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that delays in the county
2 building permit process have severely impacted the ability of
3 the State to commence state construction projects. The
4 legislature further finds that construction delays have
5 increased construction costs and harmed the livelihoods of state
6 contractors.

7 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
8 accounting and general services to establish a five-year state
9 permit pilot project to quickly and efficiently process building
10 and infrastructure permits for the construction of state
11 buildings, state roads and highways, and other construction on
12 state lands relating to the August 8, 2023 Maui wildfires
13 damage, while simultaneously ensuring that the construction
14 complies with all state and county building infrastructure
15 requirements.

16 SECTION 2. (a) The department of accounting and general
17 services shall establish a five-year state permit pilot program



1 to process building and infrastructure permits for the
2 construction of state-owned buildings, state roads and highways,
3 and other construction on state lands in the wildfire disaster
4 declaration area. Subject to the requirements of this section,
5 the department of accounting and general services shall:

6 (1) Review applications containing state building and
7 infrastructure construction plans to ensure that the
8 plans satisfy the state building code as required by
9 section 107-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the
10 applicable county building codes, and any other
11 applicable construction codes; and

12 (2) Issue a state permit to the applicant if the
13 application satisfies all applicable codes or deny the
14 application if the application does not satisfy all
15 applicable codes.

16 (b) A state agency may obtain a state permit from the
17 department of accounting and general services in lieu of
18 obtaining a county building or infrastructure permit required by
19 any county for any type of work regarding a state building,
20 state infrastructure, or any type of work on state land.



1 (c) Notwithstanding any law or ordinance to the contrary,
2 any state agency who obtains a state permit under this section
3 shall not be liable for not obtaining a county building or
4 infrastructure permit for the same work submitted in an
5 application to the department of accounting and general services
6 for which the state permit was issued.

7 (d) The county in which the state project is located
8 shall, within thirty days of request by the State, issue a
9 certificate of occupancy to the State for any building for which
10 a state permit was issued under this section, upon:

11 (1) Completion of the building for which the state permit
12 was issued;

13 (2) The building passing final inspection by a state-
14 designated inspector; and

15 (3) Formal acceptance of the building by the State.

16 (e) Each county in which a state project is located shall
17 allow projects issued a state permit under this section to
18 connect with all required infrastructure services, including but
19 not limited to potable water, wastewater, stormwater, solid
20 waste, and other county-provided services. Failure of the
21 county to issue the certificate of occupancy within thirty days



1 shall result in the certificate being deemed issued by the
2 respective county.

3 (f) All public and private utilities shall allow projects
4 issued a state permit under this section to connect with all
5 required services without the need for a county permit. These
6 shall include but not be limited to electrical, internet,
7 telephone, cable television, potable water, wastewater, and
8 other provided services.

9 (g) The department of accounting and general services, in
10 consultation with the state building code council, shall adopt
11 rules pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, necessary
12 for the establishment and administration of the five-year state
13 permit pilot program, including rules addressing the permit
14 application process, required submissions, and fees.

15 (h) The department of accounting and general services
16 shall submit:

17 (1) Interim reports to the legislature no later than
18 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
19 sessions of 2025, 2026, 2027, and 2028 on the progress
20 of the state permit pilot program; and



1 (2) A final report of its findings and recommendations,
2 including any proposed legislation, to the legislature
3 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
4 the regular session of 2029.

5 (j) The state permit pilot program shall terminate on
6 June 30, 2029.

7 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
8 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
9 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
10 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
11 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
12 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
13 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
14 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
15 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
16 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
17 ceiling are that:

18 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
19 serve the public interest; and

20 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
21 addressed by this Act.



1 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the
4 establishment and administration of the first fiscal year of the
5 five-year state permit pilot program.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
7 of accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



Report Title:

DAGS; State Permit Pilot Program; Expenditure Ceiling;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to establish a five-year State Permit Pilot Program to process building and infrastructure permits for the construction of state-owned buildings, state roads and highways, and other construction on state lands in the wildfire disaster declaration area. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation. Takes effect 7/1/2112.
(SD1)

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