
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CLIMATE CHANGE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is
2 overwhelming evidence that human activities are altering the
3 earth's climate and that climate change will have significant
4 local and global health impacts. Climate change and related
5 health impacts transcend national borders and it is probable
6 that climate change health impacts in other countries will
7 affect the health of people throughout the United States,
8 including Hawai'i. Famine, drought, extreme weather events, and
9 regional conflicts, all likely consequences of climate change,
10 increase the incidence of disease and contribute to various
11 adverse health impacts, making it imperative to address climate
12 change at the national and local level. Climate change will
13 affect the health of people globally and in Hawai'i and it is
14 imperative to mitigate the health-related impacts.

15 The legislature further finds that as a result of Hawai'i's
16 unique geographic location and isolation, Hawai'i is particularly
17 vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including



1 contamination or decrease in the water, food, and energy supply.
2 Various potential health impacts of climate change include
3 respiratory allergies, airway diseases, food-borne diseases,
4 biotoxin exposure, heat-related illnesses, cancer,
5 cardiovascular diseases, vector-borne diseases, and waterborne
6 diseases. Yet, Hawai'i's health community lacks the knowledge
7 and training required to prepare for and respond to various
8 potential health impacts of climate change.

9 The purpose of this Act is to require the interagency
10 climate adaptation committee to:

- 11 (1) Assist with coordinating the implementation of climate
12 change policies developed by county, state, and
13 federal agencies; and
14 (2) Prepare public health vulnerability and adaptation
15 reports to assist the State's health professionals
16 effectively and efficiently prepare for and respond to
17 various potential health impacts of climate change.

18 SECTION 2. Section 225P-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 " [f] §225P-3 [f] Interagency climate adaptation committee;
21 general functions, duties, and powers. (a) There is



1 established an interagency climate adaptation committee that
2 shall be placed within the department of land and natural
3 resources for administrative purposes only.

4 (b) Coordination of the committee shall be headed jointly
5 by the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources,
6 or the chairperson's designee, and the director of the office of
7 planning, or the director's designee. ~~[Among the various
8 potential impacts of climate change, the committee shall, as a
9 first step, focus on and develop sea level rise vulnerability
10 and adaptation reports that shall include:~~

- 11 ~~(1) Identification of the major areas of sea level rise
12 impacts affecting the State and counties through 2050;~~
- 13 ~~(2) Identification of expected impacts of sea level rise
14 based on the latest scientific research for each area
15 through 2050;~~
- 16 ~~(3) Identification of the economic ramifications of sea
17 level rise;~~
- 18 ~~(4) Identification of applicable federal laws, policies,
19 or programs that impact affected areas; and~~



1 ~~(5) Recommendations for planning, management, and~~
2 ~~adaptation for hazards associated with increasing sea~~
3 ~~level rise.~~

4 ~~The report shall be made publicly available no later than~~
5 ~~December 31, 2017.]~~

6 [+] (c) [+] The committee shall include the following
7 members:

- 8 (1) The chairs of the standing committees of the
9 legislature with subject matter jurisdiction
10 encompassing environmental protection and land use;
- 11 (2) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
12 resources or the chairperson's designee, who shall be
13 the co-chair of the committee;
- 14 (3) The director of the office of planning or the
15 director's designee, who shall be the co-chair of the
16 committee;
- 17 (4) The director of business, economic development, and
18 tourism or the director's designee;
- 19 (5) The chairperson of the board of directors of the
20 Hawaii tourism authority or the chairperson's
21 designee;



- 1 (6) The chairperson of the board of agriculture or the
2 chairperson's designee;
- 3 (7) The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian
4 affairs or the officer's designee;
- 5 (8) The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission or
6 the chairperson's designee;
- 7 (9) The director of transportation or the director's
8 designee;
- 9 (10) The director of health or the director's designee;
- 10 (11) The adjutant general or the adjutant general's
11 designee;
- 12 (12) The chairperson of the board of education or the
13 chairperson's designee;
- 14 (13) The directors of each of the county planning
15 departments, or the directors' designees; and
- 16 (14) The manager of the coastal zone management program.
- 17 [+](d)[+] In addition to the members listed in subsection
18 (c), the chairs of the committee may request the participation
19 or input of members of the public; experts in the field; and
20 county, state, or federal officials, as necessary [~~for the~~
21 ~~formulation of the report.~~



1 ~~[(e)] In developing the report, the committee shall:~~
2 ~~(1) Solicit public views and concerns, and~~
3 ~~(2) Coordinate with the various county, state, and federal~~
4 ~~agencies involved in ongoing climate change adaptation~~
5 ~~planning initiatives.~~

6 ~~[(f)] The committee shall reevaluate and update the sea~~
7 ~~level rise vulnerability and adaptation report every five~~
8 ~~years].~~

9 ~~[(g)]~~ (e) The members of the committee shall serve
10 without pay but shall be reimbursed for their actual and
11 necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in
12 carrying out their duties.

13 (f) The committee shall:

14 (1) Assist with coordinating the implementation of climate
15 change policies developed by the various county,
16 state, and federal agencies involved in ongoing
17 climate change adaptation planning initiatives; and
18 (2) Develop climate change reports and recommendations, to
19 be made publicly available no later than December 31,
20 2017, and shall reevaluate the recommendations and



1 update the reports every five years. The reports
2 shall include:

3 (A) Sea level rise vulnerability and adaptation
4 reports, prepared in coordination with the office
5 of planning, which shall include:

6 (i) Identification of the major areas of sea
7 level rise impacts affecting the State and
8 counties through 2050;

9 (ii) Identification of expected impacts of sea
10 level rise based upon the latest scientific
11 research for each area identified under
12 clause (i) through 2050;

13 (iii) Identification of the economic ramifications
14 of sea level rise;

15 (iv) Identification of applicable federal laws,
16 policies, or programs that impact affected
17 areas identified under clause (i); and

18 (v) Recommendations for planning, management,
19 and adaptation for hazards associated with
20 increasing sea level rise; and



1 (B) Public health vulnerability and adaptation
2 reports to assist the State's health
3 professionals effectively and efficiently prepare
4 for and respond to various potential health
5 impacts of climate change, prepared in
6 coordination with the Hawaii Public Health
7 Association and other stakeholders identified by
8 the committee, which shall include:

9 (i) Developing, integrating, and maintaining
10 state and regional disease surveillance and
11 monitoring systems to respond to various
12 potential health impacts of climate change,
13 including but not limited to water and food
14 safety and security, vector-borne infectious
15 disease, respiratory and cardiovascular
16 health, mental and behavioral health, and
17 community or population-specific health;

18 (ii) Creating evidence-based tools to predict and
19 monitor the public health impacts of climate
20 change in the State;



- 1 (iii) Identifying and prioritizing communities and
2 populations that may be vulnerable to
3 various potential health impacts of climate
4 change, and developing a strategy to inform
5 and protect these communities and
6 populations;
- 7 (iv) Developing and recommending programs for
8 public health care professionals and the
9 public to promote climate-change
10 preparedness and response strategies related
11 to public health;
- 12 (v) Developing and recommending ways to
13 strengthen the workforce's ability to
14 prepare for and respond to the various
15 potential health impacts of climate change
16 by expanding and training the public health
17 workforce; and
- 18 (vi) Developing and recommending ways to advance,
19 implement, and support state and local
20 preparedness, including communication and
21 response plans.



1 (g) In developing reports and recommendations, the
2 committee shall:

3 (1) Solicit public views and concerns; and

4 (2) Coordinate with the various county, state, and federal
5 agencies involved in ongoing climate change adaptation
6 planning initiatives."

7 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Interagency Climate Adaptation Committee; Duties; Reports

Description:

Requires the interagency climate adaptation committee to assist with coordinating the implementation of climate change policies developed by county, state, and federal agencies. Requires the committee to prepare public health vulnerability and adaptation reports to assist the State's health professionals effectively and efficiently prepare for and respond to various potential health impacts of climate change. (HD1)

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