
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SANDALWOOD.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the decline in the
2 number and distribution of native sandalwood tree species in
3 Hawaii is a cause of concern for forestry management and
4 conservation purposes. Historically, losses of these trees has
5 been caused by non-native mammals and insects, fire, and
6 diseases that limit regeneration and growth of existing trees.
7 The legislature finds that while protection of native sandalwood
8 species is afforded on state lands and under the rules governing
9 conservation districts, there is no regulation or oversight on
10 the harvest, sale, or destruction of native sandalwood species
11 on privately owned or managed lands, including those within
12 conservation districts.

13 The legislature further finds that the commercial
14 harvesting of native sandalwood could be a promising new
15 industry in the State and has the potential to provide new jobs
16 and increase exports. However, conservation of the State's
17 native sandalwood species is critical to maintaining
18 biodiversity within forest ecosystems, providing habitat for



1 mammals and birds, and protecting watershed areas. Therefore,
2 the legislature finds that it is essential to investigate
3 methods for the sustainable management of sandalwood resources
4 and the regulation of sandalwood harvesting that balance the
5 important interests of promoting economic development and
6 conserving the State's fragile and irreplaceable natural
7 environment. Finally, the legislature finds that a successful
8 system of regulating the harvesting of native sandalwood species
9 must consider input from experts in relevant scientific fields,
10 foresters, government agencies, landowners, and other
11 stakeholders.

12 SECTION 2. (a) There is established in the department of
13 land and natural resources for administrative purposes, the
14 native sandalwood use and conservation task force for the
15 purpose of investigating methods for sustainable management of
16 sandalwood resources and regulation of sandalwood harvesting.

17 (b) The chairperson of the board of land and natural
18 resources or the chairperson's designee shall serve as chair of
19 the task force. The task force shall include:

20 (1) The administrator of the division of forestry and
21 wildlife, or the administrator's designee;



- 1 (2) The executive director of the agribusiness development
2 corporation, or the executive director's designee;
- 3 (3) The chairperson of the board of agriculture, or the
4 chairperson's designee;
- 5 (4) A representative of the United States Fish and
6 Wildlife Service;
- 7 (5) A representative of the agency charged with research
8 and development of each of the counties;
- 9 (6) A representative of the planning department of each
10 county;
- 11 (7) A representative of the Hawaii forest industry
12 association;
- 13 (8) A representative of the Hawaii cattlemen's council;
- 14 (9) A representative of the united Chinese society of
15 Hawaii;
- 16 (10) A representative of the international sandalwood
17 foundation;
- 18 (11) Representatives of the State's agro-forestry and
19 commercial forestry industry;
- 20 (12) At least one representative of small landowners or
21 lessees who engage in the sustainable forestry of
22 sandalwood on areas of one hundred acres or less;



1 (13) Trained experts from the academic or research fields
2 of botany, forestry, ethno-botany, environmental
3 science, biology, or related fields as the chairperson
4 sees fit; and

5 (14) An expert in native Hawaiian traditional and cultural
6 practice as it relates to use of native sandalwood
7 species or forestry management.

8 (c) The task force shall investigate and make
9 recommendations on:

10 (1) Conservation of Hawaiian sandalwood, including but not
11 limited to:

12 (A) Supporting the sustainable management and use of
13 Hawaiian sandalwood resources throughout the
14 State, including reforestation efforts;

15 (B) Providing incentives to local entrepreneurs to
16 cultivate Hawaiian sandalwood species for
17 reforestation programs or sustainable commercial
18 operations; and

19 (C) Providing support for programs that ensure the
20 sustainability of commercial operations for
21 Hawaiian sandalwood resources in the State;



1 (2) Establishment of requirements for a permitting process
2 for the commercial and noncommercial harvesting of
3 Hawaiian sandalwood, including a sustainable forest
4 management plan; and

5 (3) Prohibition of the export of native Hawaiian
6 sandalwood seed banks.

7 (d) The task force shall submit an interim report to the
8 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
9 the regular session of 2015, and shall submit a final report to
10 the legislature on its findings and recommendation, including
11 any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than
12 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
13 2016.

14 (e) No member of the task force shall be made subject to
15 chapter 84, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of the
16 member's participation on the task force.

17 (f) The task force shall be dissolved on June 30, 2016.

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for
21 the operational and administrative expenses of the native
22 sandalwood use and conservation task force.



- 1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 2 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.
- 3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.



Report Title:

Native Sandalwood; DLNR; Sustainable Forestry; Task Force

Description:

Establishes a task force in the Department of Land and Natural Resources to investigate and make recommendations on sustainable management and regulated harvesting of native sandalwood. Makes appropriation. Effective July 1, 2014. (HB1765 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

