
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FISHPONDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the repair of many
2 Hawaiian fishponds may require permits from the department of
3 land and natural resources, department of health, office of
4 planning, and federal and county governments.

5 The legislature further finds that the process of obtaining
6 a permit for the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds is time
7 consuming, complicated, confusing, and varies depending upon the
8 circumstances of the party applying for the permit. The
9 existing regulations and permit requirements preclude community
10 organizations and native Hawaiian aquaculturalists from
11 repairing and maintaining Hawaiian fishponds.

12 The State has the ability to streamline the permit process
13 and promote interagency cooperation to facilitate restoration
14 and leasing of fishponds to cultural and familial descendants.
15 However, the State has not led a comprehensive initiative to
16 streamline the permit process for restoration of Hawaiian
17 fishponds in more than thirty years.



1 The restoration and reuse of loko i'a provide an opportunity
2 to increase supplies of certain fish, which will make Hawaii
3 more food secure and increase sustainable economic development
4 opportunities for rural communities.

5 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
6 land and natural resources, department of health, and office of
7 planning, in collaboration with community organizations and
8 native Hawaiian aquaculturalists, to streamline the permitting
9 process for and facilitate the restoration of Hawaiian
10 fishponds.

11 SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources,
12 department of health, and office of planning, in collaboration
13 with community organizations and native Hawaiian
14 aquaculturalists, shall streamline the permitting process for
15 and facilitate the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds by
16 implementing:

- 17 (1) One master conservation district use application
18 process that applies to all Hawaiian fishponds;
- 19 (2) A coastal zone management program consistency
20 statement for Hawaiian fishponds;
- 21 (3) Water quality certification for Hawaiian fishponds;



1 (4) A general permit for Hawaiian fishponds that conforms
2 to the requirements for a Hawaiian fishpond pollution
3 discharge elimination system; and

4 (5) Administrative rules adopted pursuant to chapter 91,
5 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to be applied consistently
6 throughout the State.

7 The department of land and natural resources, with input
8 from the department of health and office of planning, shall
9 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
10 any proposed legislation for a streamlined permit process for
11 the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds, to the legislature no
12 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
13 session of 2014.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



Report Title:

Fishponds; Restoration; Permits

Description:

Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Health, and Office of Planning to streamline the permitting process and facilitate the restoration of Hawaiian fishponds. Requires DLNR to submit a report of findings and recommendations. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB710 HD1)

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