

116<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 7045

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## AN ACT

To require the Secretary of Agriculture to conduct a study on lands that could be included in a National Forest in Hawai'i, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. HAWAII NATIONAL FOREST STUDY.**

2 (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to identify  
3 lands within the study area that would—

4 (1) support the conservation of biodiversity not  
5 found elsewhere in the National Forest System;

6 (2) support or expand the research mission of  
7 the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry;

8 (3) promote shared stewardship with local com-  
9 munities, including indigenous populations, the State  
10 of Hawai'i, and non-profit groups; and

11 (4) support or expand the international pro-  
12 grams of the Forest Service related to conservation  
13 of forest ecosystems, sustainable forestry, protection  
14 of threatened, endangered, and migratory species,  
15 controlling the spread of invasive species, inter-  
16 national reforestation, and other forest restoration  
17 efforts.

18 (b) STUDY REQUIRED.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 years after  
20 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary  
21 shall conduct a study to identify available land with-  
22 in the study area that could be included in a Na-  
23 tional Forest in Hawai'i.

24 (2) COORDINATION REQUIREMENT.—The Sec-  
25 retary shall conduct the study under paragraph (1)

1 in coordination the Hawai'i Department of Land  
2 and Natural Resources.

3 (3) CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT.—In car-  
4 rying out the study under paragraph (1), the Sec-  
5 retary—

6 (A) shall consult with—

7 (i) the Hawai'i Department of Land  
8 and Natural Resources; and

9 (ii) the Hawai'i Department of Agri-  
10 culture; and

11 (B) may consult with such other govern-  
12 mental or nonprofit entities as the Secretary  
13 determines appropriate.

14 (4) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the  
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall  
16 submit a report to the Committee on Energy and  
17 Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee  
18 on Natural Resources of the House of Representa-  
19 tives that identifies—

20 (A) available land within the study area  
21 that could be included in a National Forest in  
22 Hawai'i;

23 (B) the ownership of the land within the  
24 study area;

1 (C) any undeveloped land in the study area  
2 that may be at risk of development; and

3 (D) any actions that could be carried out  
4 to preserve the open and undeveloped character  
5 of the land within the study area.

6 (c) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section authorizes the  
7 Secretary to take any action that would affect the use of  
8 any land not owned by the United States.

9 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) AVAILABLE LAND.—The term “available  
11 land” means any land within the study areas that  
12 is—

13 (A) Federally owned;

14 (B) managed by a Federal land manage-  
15 ment agency in partnership with a non-Federal  
16 entity; or

17 (C) land not described in subparagraph  
18 (A) or (B) that fulfills the purpose of this sec-  
19 tion, as determined by the Secretary.

20 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
21 the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the  
22 Chief of the Forest Service.

23 (3) STUDY AREA.—The term “study area”  
24 means the islands of Hawai’i, Maui, Moloka’i,  
25 Lāna’i, O’ahu and Kaua’i in the State of Hawai’i.

1           (4) UNDEVELOPED LAND.—The term “undevel-  
2       oped land” means land—

3           (A) that is located within the study area;

4           (B) that is free or primarily free of struc-  
5       tures; and

6           (C) the development of which is likely to  
7       affect adversely the scenic, research, wildlife, or  
8       recreational value of the study area.

      Passed the House of Representatives December 3,  
2020.

Attest:

*Clerk.*

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