
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE JAPANESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN HAWAII.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a Nisei Veterans
2 Legacy Center would preserve, perpetuate, and share the legacy
3 of the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the United
4 States armed forces in World War II. Such a center would
5 provide research and educational programs, outreach efforts, and
6 displays for residents and visitors. The establishment of a
7 Nisei Veterans Legacy Center would create a facility dedicated
8 to researching, preserving, and interpreting the history of the
9 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military
10 Intelligence Service, and the 1399th Engineer Construction
11 Battalion to develop deeper understandings of their unique place
12 in Hawaiian, American, and global history.

13 A Nisei Veterans Legacy Center would curate materials and
14 artifacts to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of the Nisei
15 soldiers of World War II who fought loyally and valiantly
16 against the Axis powers on the European and Pacific
17 battlefields, while having to combat distrust, racial prejudice,
18 and discrimination at home. A Nisei Veterans Legacy Center



1 would examine race, loyalty, citizenship, and "Americanism"
2 against the backdrop of martial law, internment, and the
3 fragility of civil liberties and civil rights during that era,
4 and demonstrate how the Nisei soldiers' battlefield experiences
5 and sacrifices contributed to political leadership, social
6 movements, and social transformation in Hawaii and the United
7 States.

8 Locating a Nisei Veterans Legacy Center in West Oahu would
9 complement academic and research programs offered at the
10 University of Hawaii, such as the Center for Labor Education and
11 Research's Labor Archives and the Henry Giugni film collection.

12 The Honouliuli Internment Camp is a major historical site
13 located on property currently owned by Monsanto in West Oahu.
14 The United States National Park Service, Japanese Cultural
15 Center of Hawaii, University of Hawaii-West Oahu, State of
16 Hawaii, Monsanto, and other stakeholders are working to preserve
17 and share the existing remnants of the internment camp, with a
18 planned educational center and memorial. In 2012, the
19 legislature established a Honouliuli advisory group to develop
20 recommendations to help develop this site with government and
21 private resources, and the group will continue to meet through
22 January 1, 2014.



1 The purpose of this Act is to make appropriations for the
2 planning, design, and construction of a center in West Oahu that
3 would incorporate a Nisei Veterans Legacy Center and to continue
4 the work of the Honouliuli park site project advisory group.
5 The legislature intends for a matching source of private or
6 public funds to be secured prior to the release of the
7 appropriations.

8 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 for
11 the planning, design, and construction of a Nisei Veterans
12 Legacy Center.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
14 Hawaii at West Oahu for the purposes of this section; provided
15 that no moneys shall be expended unless matched by grants or
16 donations from public or private sources.

17 For the purposes of this section, the value of in-kind
18 donations from private sources may be included for the purpose
19 of calculating the amount of matching funds.

20 SECTION 3. The University of Hawaii at West Oahu shall
21 report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
22 convening of the regular session of 2014 on the status of the



1 Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, which shall include a report on
2 the status of their grants or donations from public or private
3 sources.

4 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and
7 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
8 year 2014-2015 to continue the work of the Honouliuli park site
9 project advisory group created by Act 235, Session Laws of
10 Hawaii 2012.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
12 of land and natural resources for the purposes of this section;
13 provided that no moneys shall be expended unless matched by
14 grants or donations from public or private sources.

15 For the purposes of this section, the value of in-kind
16 donations from private sources may be included for the purpose
17 of calculating the amount of matching funds.

18 SECTION 5. The Honouliuli park site project advisory group
19 shall report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
20 to the convening of the regular session of 2014 on:



1 (1) Recommendations to leverage county, state, federal,
2 and private funding for an educational resource center
3 related to the Honouliuli internment site; and

4 (2) The status of designating the Honouliuli internment
5 prisoner of war camp site and associated sites within
6 Hawaii as part of the United States National Park
7 Service.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Japanese American Experience in Hawaii; Nisei Veterans Legacy Center; Honouliuli Internment Camp Educational Center; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the planning, design, and construction of the Nisei Veterans Legacy Center and a Honouliuli Internment Camp Educational Center, subject to matching funds. Requires reports to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2014. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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