
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the University of
2 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources is in
3 critical need of personnel for its cooperative extension service
4 to improve and strengthen Hawaii's sustainability in agriculture
5 through educational programs. The college houses a cooperative
6 extension service that partners with federal, state, and county
7 governments, with the responsibility to provide science-based
8 information and education programs in agriculture, natural
9 resources, and human resources. The extension offices are
10 located throughout the State, with roughly twenty-five extension
11 agents statewide. The cooperative extension service provides
12 valuable tools that the public can use to strengthen communities
13 and sustain Hawaii's agricultural economy. Extension personnel
14 provide various services to the communities within each county,
15 ranging from individual consultations, educational workshops,
16 and short courses on relevant subjects, including agriculture,



1 home economics, family living, 4-H and other youth activities,
2 nutrition, and health.

3 The legislature also finds that, over the past twenty
4 years, the college of tropical agriculture and human resources
5 cooperative extension service has experienced a forty-three per
6 cent decrease in extension agents who service the various
7 counties, including a twenty-seven per cent decrease since 2008.
8 Many of the community services that the extension service offers
9 have been cut as result of the decrease.

10 The purpose of this Act is to address the budgetary
11 shortfalls experienced by the University of Hawaii college of
12 tropical agriculture and human resources cooperative extension
13 service by appropriating moneys for critical unfunded positions.

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$700,000 or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
17 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for the fiscal
18 year 2016-2017 for the following positions in the cooperative
19 extension service administered by the University of Hawaii
20 college of tropical agriculture and human resources:



- 1 (1) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) livestock agent in
2 the county of Maui;
- 3 (2) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) organic
4 agriculture agent in the county of Maui;
- 5 (3) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) food crops agent
6 in the city and county of Honolulu;
- 7 (4) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) irrigation and
8 water resources agent in the city and county of
9 Honolulu;
- 10 (5) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) tree crops agent
11 in Hawaii county; and
- 12 (6) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) farm food safety
13 agent in Hawaii county;
- 14 (7) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) plant disease
15 management agent in the county of Kauai; and
- 16 (8) One full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE) insect pest
17 management agent in the county of Kauai.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
19 of Hawaii for purposes of this Act pertaining to the college of
20 tropical agriculture and human resources cooperative extension
21 service.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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H.B. NO. 850

Report Title:

CTAHR Cooperative Extension Service; Position Funding;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys for critical positions in UH College of
Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Cooperative Extension
Service.

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