
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the intercollegiate
2 athletics programs of the University of Hawaii are unique when
3 compared to athletic programs at other institutions. The
4 legislature further finds that the community places a high value
5 on and takes much pride in the intercollegiate athletics program
6 of the University of Hawaii. All teams and individuals
7 competing for the University of Hawaii have dedicated fans who
8 enjoy the efforts of the athletes and entertainment of sports
9 contests. In contemporary society, intercollegiate athletics
10 receive much publicity and media coverage, and the participation
11 of the University of Hawaii in various sports increases the
12 exposure of people on the continental United States and in
13 foreign countries to the State of Hawaii. University of Hawaii
14 athletes are also "Ambassadors of Aloha" when they travel out-
15 of-state, and athletes have an opportunity to uniquely and
16 authentically represent Hawaii. University of Hawaii games and



1 events that are televised nationally and internationally are
2 also important marketing tools to attract visitors to the State
3 and showcase a premier higher education institution. The
4 family, friends, and supporters of visiting schools often
5 accompany the teams and stay for an extended time after the
6 games.

7 The costs for University of Hawaii at Manoa student-
8 athletes to travel to the continental United States are high
9 because of the distance traveled. Moreover, the university must
10 subsidize the travel expenses of some visiting teams that come
11 to Hawaii. Lastly, the scholarship costs are higher at the
12 University of Hawaii at Manoa when compared to comparable
13 schools because its athletic program has a higher percentage of
14 nonresident student-athletes. In total, the athletics costs of
15 the University of Hawaii at Manoa are \$5,200,000 higher than its
16 peer institutions. As a result, rather than competing in
17 collegiate athletics on a level playing field with its peers,
18 University of Hawaii at Manoa athletics is at a competitive
19 disadvantage because a significant portion of its budget must be
20 used to offset costs that other athletic programs do not have.
21 The University of Hawaii at Manoa's athletic program should not



1 be put at a competitive disadvantage in relation to the
2 institutions that it competes against when representing the
3 State of Hawaii.

4 Athletics at the University of Hawaii at Hilo is a source
5 of great pride to the community of Hilo and the island of
6 Hawaii. There is a vibrant history of connection between the
7 community and the university's "Vulcan" athletics. Not only is
8 Vulcan athletics a source of community activity, it is also a
9 key component of the overall student life experience for the
10 diverse campus student-body in Hilo. Athletics at the
11 University of Hawaii at Hilo is a significant economic driver to
12 the island of Hawaii's economy by bringing in visiting teams
13 that translates into thousands of team members and their
14 families to the island each year alone. Such activity
15 positively benefits the local hotels, restaurants, airlines, car
16 rental agencies, and other small businesses. University of
17 Hawaii at Hilo athletics produces great community and economic
18 benefits to the island of Hawaii, neighbor island communities,
19 and the State of Hawaii.

20 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the
21 intercollegiate athletic program of the University of Hawaii to



1 offset higher costs unique to the university's athletic program
2 when compared to its peer institutions.

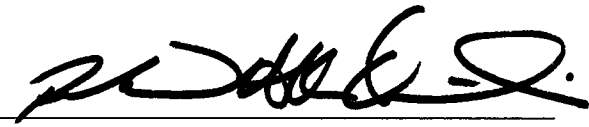
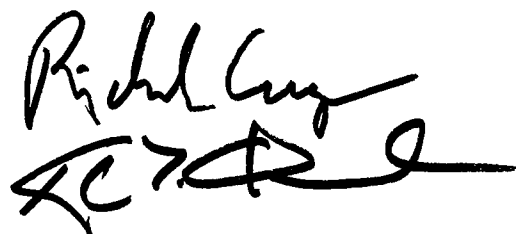

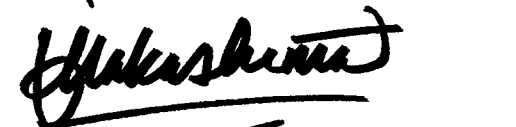

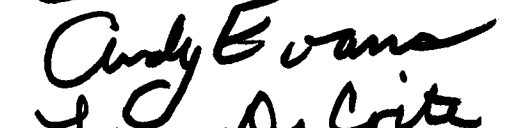
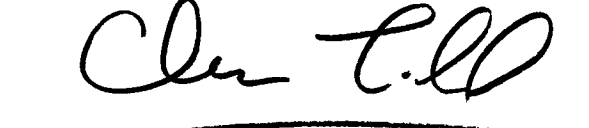


3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,000,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2018-2019 for the intercollegiate athletic program of the
8 University of Hawaii.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
10 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

12

INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 25 2017



H.B. NO. 1473

Report Title:

Funding for the University of Hawaii Intercollegiate Athletic Program; Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Intercollegiate Athletic Program.

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