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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL  
AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION  
SERVICE.

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

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



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

3 Over the past twenty years, the college of tropical  
4 agriculture and human resources cooperative extension service  
5 has experienced a forty-three per cent decrease in extension  
6 agents who serve the various counties, including a twenty-seven  
7 per cent decrease since 2008. Many of the community services  
8 that the extension service offers have been cut, most  
9 importantly ornamental plant services, the production of which  
10 exceeds \$70,000,000 annually in wholesale value.

11 The purpose of this Act is to address the budgetary  
12 shortfalls experienced by the University of Hawaii college of  
13 tropical agriculture and human resources cooperative extension  
14 service by appropriating moneys for additional full-time  
15 equivalent ornamental plant extension agent positions.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to the  
19 university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
20 resources cooperative extension service for four full-time  
21 equivalent (4.0 FTE) ornamental plant extension agents; provided



1 that one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position each shall be  
2 located in the city and county of Honolulu, eastern portion of  
3 the county of Hawaii, county of Maui, and county of Kauai.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
5 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 3. The college of tropical agriculture and human  
7 resources of the University of Hawaii shall submit a report to  
8 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening  
9 of the regular session of 2019 on the status of ornamental plant  
10 extension agent positions and the reasons behind any vacancies  
11 that may exist.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii; Cooperative Extension Service;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources cooperative extension service for four full-time ornamental plant extension agents. Requires a report. (HB1968 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

