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# 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 a 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 \$350,000 or so much  
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 for four  
17 full-time equivalent (4.00 FTE) positions in the cooperative  
18 extension service administered by the University of Hawaii  
19 college of tropical agriculture and human resources; provided  
20 that the positions shall be deemed critical to accomplishing the  
21 purpose of the cooperative extension service program; and



1 provided further that one position shall be assigned to each  
2 county.

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

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



**Report Title:**

CTAHR Cooperative Extension Service; Position Funding;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for four critical positions in the cooperative extension service administered by the UH College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources and to be distributed one position to each county. (HB850 CD1)

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

