

JAN 24 2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that creating innovation
2 in the State's agricultural industry will provide greater
3 opportunities for local food production and security. The
4 university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human
5 resources cooperative extension provides valuable resources
6 connecting research and innovation to food sovereignty, food
7 security, food production, and environmental and human
8 resilience. Extension agents who work with the 4-H youth
9 development support over two hundred thousand youths, or 15.1
10 per cent of the population aged five through eighteen years.
11 According to a national study of youth participating in youth
12 organizations, individuals who participate in 4-H are more
13 likely than their peers who participate in youth programs to
14 attend college, study science, graduate, return home, and
15 participate in service within their community as an adult.

16 The legislature further finds that despite the valuable
17 work of extension agents, the number of 4-H youth development



1 faculty or permanent staff has decreased from fifteen full-time
2 equivalent employees to 7.5 full-time equivalent employees since
3 2000, creating additional challenges for the college of tropical
4 agriculture and human resources to adequately provide staffing
5 needs for youth who are facing unprecedented mental and physical
6 health challenges. By increasing staffing with cooperative
7 extension programs such as 4-H, the State can achieve its goal
8 to develop a vibrant and skilled workforce while also providing
9 Hawaii's keiki with a healthy community.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
11 funds to the university of Hawaii for two full-time equivalent
12 (2.0 FTE) extension agent positions within the college of
13 tropical agriculture and human resources to support the 4-H
14 youth development program in Kona, Hawaii county, and Lihue,
15 Kauai county.

16 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
17 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
18 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
19 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
20 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
21 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by



1 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
2 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
3 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
4 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
5 ceiling are that:

- 6 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
7 serve the public interest; and
- 8 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
9 addressed by this Act.

10 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
13 expended as follows:

- 14 (1) \$100,000 for the establishment of one full-time
15 equivalent (1.0 FTE) extension agent at the assistant
16 or associate rank, for the program area of 4-H youth
17 development and intergenerational programming for
18 Kona, Hawaii county; and
- 19 (2) \$100,000 for the establishment of one full-time
20 equivalent (1.0 FTE) extension agent at the assistant
21 or associate rank, for the program area of 4-H youth



1 development and intergenerational programming for
2 Lihue, Kauai county.

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

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Keauni A. Iouye*



S.B. NO. 3325

Report Title:

UH; CTAHR; Cooperative Extension; 4-H Youth Development;
Positions; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) extension agent positions to support the 4-H Youth Development Program and intergenerational programming in Kona, Hawaii County, and Lihue, Kauai County. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded.

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