HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 315

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FUNDING FOR AGRICULTURAL WATER DISTRIBUTION FOR KULA IN UPCOUNTRY MAUI.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that for agriculture to
 succeed in Hawaii, farmers must have access to affordable land
 and water resources. It is vital that farmers are provided the
 necessary infrastructure to fully maximize their production
 capabilities as well as compete in the global market.

6 The legislature also finds that Kula, in upcountry Maui, is 7 considered to be one of the most productive agricultural 8 communities in the State. However, farmers and Kula residents 9 have competing uses for the existing Kula water system. The 10 competition between potable water and agricultural water places 11 a heavy burden on the Kula farmers because water is being 12 treated to drinking water standards, thus making the water 13 expensive for agricultural use. In some cases, Kula farmers are 14 paying three to four times more for agricultural water than 15 farmers in other parts of the State.

16 The legislature finds that the federal government has17 appropriated funds for the construction of a separate



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agricultural water distribution system for Kula. This new
 system will help provide farmers with affordable water
 resources. It is critical that the State and county agencies
 continue to support this vital agricultural area and provide the
 fifty per cent matching funds to continue this project.

6 The purpose of this Act is to provide the necessary fifty
7 per cent matching funds for the construction of a new
8 agricultural water distribution system for Kula, in upcountry
9 Maui.

10 SECTION 2. The director of finance is authorized to issue 11 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much 12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and 13 \$1,500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009, and the same sums or so much thereof as may be 14 15 necessary are appropriated for fiscal year 2007-2008 and fiscal 16 year 2008-2009 to provide state matching funds for land 17 acquisition, design, and construction costs incurred in the construction of a new agricultural water distribution system for 18 19 Kula in upcountry Maui.

20 This project is deemed necessary to qualify for federal21 aid financing and reimbursement.



1 SECTION 3. The appropriations made for the capital 2 improvement project authorized in section 2 of this Act shall 3 not lapse at the end of the fiscal year for which the 4 appropriations are made; provided that all moneys that are 5 unencumbered as of June 30, 2010, shall lapse as of that date. 6 SECTION 4. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the 7 department of agriculture for the purposes of this Act. 8 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007. 9

INTRODUCED BY:

un Mhare



JAN 18 2007

Report Title:

Kula; Agricultural Water Distribution

Description:

Authorizes and appropriates general obligation bonds to provide state matching funds for the construction of a new agricultural water distribution system for Kula in upcountry Maui.

