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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE OPIHI RESTORATION PROGRAM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in recent years, the  
2 popularity of opihi as a delicacy has resulted in  
3 overharvesting, bringing about a dramatic decline in the number  
4 of edible opihi found throughout Hawaii. Opihi continues to be  
5 difficult to obtain in its natural habitat on each island. A  
6 diverse group of scientists, private businesses, and community  
7 organizations have been collaborating to address the declining  
8 opihi populations and the general lack of scientific information  
9 on this culturally important group of shellfish.

10           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for an  
11 opihi restoration program to:

- 12           (1) Obtain a current baseline population of Hawaiian opihi  
13           for opihi management and restocking purposes; and  
14           (2) Establish a hatchery-based opihi stocking program to  
15           enhance the depleted natural populations of opihi in  
16           Hawaii.

17           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$168,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the  
2 Hawaii sea grant college program to implement the opihi  
3 restoration program, including salaries, rent, materials and  
4 supplies, and other costs of the program.

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

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Cindy Evans*

JAN 14 2008



**Report Title:**

Conservation and Resources; Opihi Restoration Project

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii for the opihi restoration project, a hatchery-based restocking program to enhance depleted natural populations of opihi.

