

JAN 18 2008

---

---

# 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 federal and state  
2 agencies face constant needs for professionals trained in  
3 cultural resource management in the disciplines of archaeology  
4 and anthropology to ensure rigorous, timely, and professionally  
5 reviewed compliance submissions for federal and state  
6 legislation, such as the National Native American Graves  
7 Protection Act of 1990 and chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
8 establishing burial councils, as well as all aspects of the  
9 state historic preservation division of the department of land  
10 and natural resources and related federal and state laws and  
11 agencies.

12           In Hawaii, the potential and demonstrated adverse effects  
13 to cultural resources are evident in many current project  
14 initiatives that could have a potentially adverse impact on  
15 cultural and environmental resources, economic stability, and  
16 community well-being. These initiatives, if not handled with  
17 the support of trained professionals and consultation with  
18 appropriate community cultural leaders, have the potential to



1 cause heightened levels of concern, mistrust, expensive and  
2 time-consuming litigation, and an overall sense of loss.  
3 Examples of these are not intended to point blame at any  
4 particular project, but are well known in the lexicon of  
5 planning, economic development, natural resource conservation,  
6 and most important, the cultural integrity essential to  
7 sustainable systems for Hawaii's people, cultural and natural  
8 resources and traditions, its unique lifestyle, and its future  
9 visions.

10 In the past, the Bishop Museum served as a regional  
11 resource for historical curation, cultural anthropology,  
12 archaeological research, and cultural education throughout the  
13 Pacific region. Eminent scholars such as Kenneth Emory, Yoshito  
14 Sinoto, William Bonk, and their trained successors provided  
15 Hawaii and the Pacific region with unparalleled resources for  
16 historical conservation, preservation, and scholarly research in  
17 concert with native practitioners and cultural experts from all  
18 communities.

19 In spite of the evidence in newspapers, community  
20 gatherings, court proceedings, and daily dialogue at many levels  
21 of federal, state, and county government, the State of Hawaii  
22 has limited opportunity to train cultural resource management



1 professionals at the graduate level to work with community  
2 leaders to assist federal, state, county, or private entities in  
3 cooperating with the local community in the cultural resource  
4 management process so vital to preserving cultural integrity.  
5 Establishing localized training in cultural resource management  
6 is essential to training a cadre of effective and qualified  
7 professionals who would form meaningful partnerships with  
8 educational institutions and indigenous cultures in the  
9 preservation of the nation's cultural heritage, as called for in  
10 the presidential Executive Order 13287 of March 3, 2003. Hawaii  
11 has an extraordinary track-record in such preservation, and it  
12 is essential to restore leadership to Hawaii's academic,  
13 cultural, and conservation resources.

14 The lack of trained professionals is demonstrated in the  
15 critical understaffing of the state historic preservation office  
16 of the department of land and natural resources, as well as  
17 critical backlogs of more than two hundred fifty reports and  
18 reviews required to advance state and federal capital  
19 improvement projects at many levels. There are also critical  
20 shortages of trained staff for the twenty-four permitted  
21 cultural resource management firms working in the State, which  
22 require that principal investigators possess a graduate degree



1 from an accredited institution in archaeology, anthropology  
2 (specialization) or an equivalent field. Other planning,  
3 architectural, engineering, and communications firms report a  
4 critical need for trained and knowledgeable professionals to  
5 assist in this important work. There are further shortages in  
6 United States-affiliated Pacific islands, the territories of  
7 Guam and American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern  
8 Mariana Islands and the Freely Associated States. The  
9 Polynesian nations that share Hawaii's cultural heritage also  
10 are woefully short of qualified cultural resource management  
11 programs; fully one-third of the world's cultural heritage is  
12 impacted by a shortage of personnel and a dearth of knowledge  
13 spanning three thousand years of cultural awareness.

14 While there has been a significant increase in recent years  
15 in expanding environmental, social, and cultural resource  
16 programs, there is no better place to grow Hawaii's own talent  
17 than the University of Hawaii at Hilo's "living laboratories" in  
18 anthropology, geology, archaeology, astronomy, natural and  
19 environmental science, biology, and the first national doctoral  
20 program in a native language through Ka Haka Ula o Ke'elikelani,  
21 the college of Hawaiian language, which has unanimously endorsed  
22 expansion of the cultural resource management program at the



1 University of Hawaii at Hilo, through establishment of a masters  
2 program through the anthropology department, in close  
3 association with the University of Hawaii at Manoa. Although  
4 the program has elicited enormous interest from community,  
5 faculty, student, and government leaders, it is essential to  
6 obtain a complete analysis of costs and resources required to  
7 proceed with this important endeavor.

8 Also critical to establishment of a masters program in  
9 cultural resource management is development of an appropriate  
10 partnership with federal, state, county, and private resources  
11 to establish a professional curatorial facility on the island of  
12 Hawaii that will enable scholarly and student access to further  
13 research, instruction, practicum, and exhibition of the  
14 University of Hawaii at Hilo's exceptional archives covering  
15 federally mandated collections requirements now housed in  
16 inadequate storage areas. In addition, there are numerous  
17 private collections that require appropriate conservation and  
18 preservation and a pressing development of new and existing  
19 facilities to aid this important work. There are numerous  
20 locations and partnerships that can be developed to support the  
21 concept of the "living laboratory", such as that as practiced by  
22 the Army Environmental Center at Pohakuloa, which is staffed by



1 more than thirty-five professional experts in archaeology,  
2 anthropology, biology, out planting, endangered species  
3 management, conservation, ungulate and invasive species  
4 management practices, and other real-world conservation skills  
5 practiced on adjacent lands managed by the department of land  
6 and natural resources at Mauna Kea State Park, and office of  
7 Hawaiian affairs at the historic Humuula sheep station and  
8 historic paniolo Keanakolu Trail and Mana Road. The practices  
9 of the past have a place in the future, and the opportunities to  
10 create new and innovative educational disciplines and high  
11 skill-high knowledge - high pay jobs will never be more  
12 important than they are now.

13       The purpose of this Act is to establish a master of arts  
14 program in cultural resource management at the University of  
15 Hawaii, Hilo in concert with related courses or programs at the  
16 University of Hawaii at Manoa and Hawaii community colleges.

17       SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000 or so much  
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the  
20 establishment of a graduate level master of arts program in  
21 cultural resource management at the University of Hawaii at Hilo



1 and related courses at the University of Hawaii at Manoa and  
2 Hawaii community college.

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, 2008.

6

INTRODUCED BY: *Jim*  
*Bruce Kohb*  
*J. Keli Goh*  
*Shianne Chun Oakland*  
*Norman Sakemoto*  
*Nick Hubbard*  
*Clarence K. Nishikawa*



**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii, Hilo; Cultural Resource Management;  
Graduate Program

**Description:**

Establishes a culture resource management graduate level program  
at the University of Hawaii in Hilo. Appropriation.

