
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 several years ago,
2 discussions began within the University of Hawaii at Manoa for
3 the establishment of an interdisciplinary Muslim Asia Research
4 Institute. Although other universities have successfully
5 established and secured both national and international funding
6 for Middle Eastern Research Institutes, an interdisciplinary
7 Muslim Asia Research Institute would be the first of its kind in
8 the United States, filling an educational gap and dovetailing
9 with part of the University of Hawaii's international focus on
10 Asia.

11 The legislature also finds that the University of Hawaii at
12 Manoa is ideally suited for such a Muslim Asia Research
13 Institute. In the years since those initial discussions,
14 several Asian governments and partner schools have expressed
15 interest in such a research institute. Given the current state
16 of international affairs, various national groups as well as the
17 federal government have also expressed interest.



1 The legislature is also aware that the state is projected
2 to run budget deficits of close to one billion dollars over the
3 next three fiscal years if serious reprioritization and budget
4 decisions are not undertaken and approved by this legislature.
5 In efforts to diversify our economy, higher education is a
6 viable means to attract revenue. With an interdisciplinary
7 Muslim Asia Research Institute comes the opportunity for grant
8 and research moneys and the ability to tap a niche higher
9 educational market.

10 The legislature finally finds that while the legislature
11 can provide the opportunity for the University of Hawaii at
12 Manoa to capitalize on this higher educational need, the
13 University of Hawaii at Manoa and the Board of Regents is
14 ultimately responsible for the internal management of the
15 University. Thus, the matching provisions of this Act, and the
16 ultimate decision of whether to actually request the funds to be
17 released should this Act pass the Legislature, help to ensure
18 that state funds are not frivolously spent in troubled economic
19 times.

20 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds, subject to
21 matching provisions, for the establishment of a Muslim Asia
22 Research Institute within the University of Hawaii at Manoa.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 for the
 4 establishment of a Muslim Asia Research Institute within the
 5 University of Hawaii at Manoa, provided that the funds
 6 appropriated by this Act shall be made available only when
 7 either private, federal, or other governmental funds are
 8 committed to the establishment of a Muslim Asia Research
 9 Institute within the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

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

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.
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Report Title:

Muslim Asia Research Institute

Description:

Appropriates funds, subject to private, federal, or other governmental match, to the University of Hawaii for the establishment of a Muslim Asia Research Institute.

