
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 the Filipino
2 community has grown since the first immigrants came to Hawaii in
3 1906. According to the 2010 United States Census, people of
4 Filipino ancestry are the second largest ethnic group in Hawaii,
5 with fifteen per cent of residents identifying themselves as
6 Filipino alone and twenty-five per cent of residents identifying
7 themselves as Filipino and another race. Students of Filipino
8 ancestry are also the second largest ethnic group in the
9 department of education and represent more than half of the
10 student population at Farrington high school, Waipahu high
11 school, and Lanai high and elementary school.

12 The legislature further finds that, despite their high
13 representation in the general population and schools within the
14 department of education, students of Filipino ancestry are
15 underrepresented in the University of Hawaii system. Filipino
16 students comprise only twelve per cent of the entire University
17 of Hawaii system student population. Six per cent of the
18 community colleges faculty and two and a half per cent of the



1 University of Hawaii at Manoa faculty are of Filipino ancestry.
2 The fifteen per cent postsecondary degree rate held by Filipinos
3 is the lowest among all ethnic groups in Hawaii.

4 In 2008, the legislature adopted Senate Concurrent
5 Resolution No. 120, requesting the University of Hawaii and the
6 department of education to submit a report to the legislature on
7 a plan to develop, offer, and expand Philippine language courses
8 at public schools and University of Hawaii campuses. More than
9 twenty Filipino community and student groups supported S.C.R.
10 No. 120, in addition to the Filipino legislative caucus in the
11 house of representatives, the University of Hawaii, and the
12 department of education.

13 In response to S.C.R. No. 120, the University of Hawaii
14 submitted a report recommending the establishment of a committee
15 to consider the following tasks:

- 16 (1) Surveying Philippine language courses and courses with
17 significant Philippine or Filipino ethnic content;
- 18 (2) Identifying and supporting public schools and
19 University of Hawaii campuses interested in offering
20 new classes or expanding access to existing courses in
21 Ilokano and Tagalog and related areas;



- 1 (3) Incorporating appropriate language and culture in pre-
2 college and college recruitment and retention
3 activities;
- 4 (4) Offering workshops, mentoring, and other professional
5 development activities for Ilokano and Tagalog
6 language teachers;
- 7 (5) Seeking funds for student support, co-curricular
8 activities, and Philippine language courses; and
- 9 (6) Requesting advice and resources from San Diego
10 Philippine language experts, Hawaii organizations,
11 such as KNDI radio and the Filipino Community Center,
12 and other resources.

13 The legislature further finds that the University of Hawaii
14 Pamantasan Council, with representation from Filipino students,
15 faculty, and administrators, organizes annual conferences and
16 periodic workshops on the status and aspirations of Filipinos at
17 the University of Hawaii. The Pamantasan Council was
18 established in 1987 to address:

- 19 (1) Filipino students, faculty, and staff representation
20 and success;
- 21 (2) Philippine and Filipino-American courses in the
22 curriculum;



- 1 (3) Filipinos in the department of education;
- 2 (4) Filipinos in jobs, careers, and community service; and
- 3 (5) Relations between Philippine and United States higher
- 4 education institutions.

5 The legislature further finds that the Pamantasan Council

6 has the capacity to engage in substantive discussions with, and

7 reach out to, community groups, private organizations, and state

8 agencies to improve the status of Filipino education at the

9 University of Hawaii and the department of education.

10 The legislature further finds the annual conferences hosted

11 by different campuses require funds. Funds and positions are

12 needed at the University of Hawaii at Manoa for a Philippine

13 librarian (1.0 FTE); four part-time graduate assistantships (2.0

14 FTE); one Philippine language lecturer for campuses without a

15 full-time language faculty (1.0 FTE); annual conference and

16 workshops (\$20,000); and research and curriculum development

17 coordination with the public schools (\$25,000).

18 Increased coordination, additional resources, and expansion

19 of Philippine studies, Philippine language courses, and content

20 on the Filipino-American experience in the University of Hawaii

21 system and the department of education will increase academic



1 interest, student success, and graduation among Filipino
2 students.

3 The legislature further finds that support from the
4 Filipino community will increase the representation of Filipino
5 students and professionals in the education, health, legal,
6 business, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics
7 fields. In particular, the Pamantasan Council will provide
8 insight to University of Hawaii administrators and other policy
9 makers on programs and policies related to Filipino courses and
10 students.

11 The purpose of this Act, therefore, is to provide
12 additional resources to the University of Hawaii Pamantasan
13 Council to help the State and the University of Hawaii meet
14 strategic goals for access and diversity.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 and the
18 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
19 2014-2015 to fund various positions for the Pamantasan Council,
20 including librarians, part-time graduate assistantships, and
21 Philippine language lecturers.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
2 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2525.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Appropriation; Hawaii Pamantasan Council

Description:

Appropriates an unspecified amount in general funds for positions for the UH Pamantasan Council to promote access and diversity. Effective January 1, 2525. (HB1354 HD1)

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