
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE JAPANESE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN HAWAII.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a Nisei Veterans
2 Legacy Center would preserve, perpetuate, and share the legacy of
3 the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the United
4 States armed forces in World War II. Such a center would provide
5 research and educational programs, outreach efforts, and displays
6 for residents and visitors. The establishment of a Nisei
7 Veterans Legacy Center would create a facility dedicated to
8 researching, preserving, and interpreting the history of 100th
9 Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military
10 Intelligence Service, and the 1399th Engineer Construction
11 Battalion to develop deeper understandings of their unique place
12 in Hawaiian, American, and global history.

13 A Nisei Veterans Legacy Center would curate materials and
14 artifacts to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of the Nisei
15 soldiers of World War II who fought loyally and valiantly against
16 the Axis powers on the European and Pacific battlefields, while
17 having to combat distrust, racial prejudice, and discrimination
18 at home. A Nisei Veterans Center would examine race, loyalty,



1 citizenship, and "Americanism" against the backdrop of martial
2 law, internment, and the fragility of civil liberties and civil
3 rights during that era, and demonstrate how the Nisei soldiers'
4 battlefield experiences and sacrifices contributed to political
5 leadership, social movements, and social transformation in Hawaii
6 and the United States.

7 Locating a Nisei Veterans Legacy Center in West Oahu would
8 complement academic and research programs offered at the
9 University of Hawaii, such as the Center for Labor Education and
10 Research's Labor Archives and the Henry Guigni film collection.

11 The Honouliuli Internment Camp is a major historical site
12 located on property currently owned by Monsanto in West Oahu.
13 The United States National Park Service, Japanese Cultural Center
14 of Hawaii, University of Hawaii-West Oahu, the State of Hawaii,
15 Monsanto, and other stakeholders are working to preserve and
16 share the existing remnants of the internment camp, with a
17 planned educational center and memorial. In 2012, the
18 legislature established a Honouliuli advisory group to develop
19 recommendations to help develop this site with government and
20 private resources, and the group will continue to meet through
21 January 1, 2014.



1 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation for the
2 planning, design, and construction of a center in West Oahu that
3 would incorporate a Nisei Veterans Legacy Center and a Honouliuli
4 Internment Camp Educational Center. The legislature intends for a
5 matching source of private or public funds to be secured prior to
6 the release of the appropriation.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2013-2014 for the
10 planning, design, and construction of a Nisei Veterans Legacy
11 Center and a Honouliuli Internment Camp Educational Center.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
13 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act;
14 provided that no moneys appropriated under this Act shall be
15 expended unless matched by grants or donations from public or
16 private sources. For the purposes of this Act, the value of in-
17 kind donations from private sources may be included for the
18 purpose of calculating the amount of matching funds; provided
19 that the director of finance shall first verify the value of any
20 such donation.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 24 2013



H.B. NO. 1396

Report Title:

Japanese American Experience in Hawaii; Nisei Veterans Legacy Center; Honouliuli Internment Camp Educational Center; Appropriation; Matching Funds

Description:

Appropriates \$500,000 for the planning, design, and construction of the Nisei Veterans Legacy Center and a Honouliuli Internment Camp Educational Center. Release of appropriation is subject to matching funds. Allows the value of in-kind donations to be calculated in the matching amount, subject to verification by the director of finance.

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