
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
3 of the Americans of Japanese ancestry who served in the United
4 States armed forces in World War II. Such a center would
5 provide research and educational programs, outreach efforts, and
6 displays for residents and visitors. The establishment of a
7 Nisei Veterans Legacy Center would create a facility dedicated
8 to researching, preserving, and interpreting the history of the
9 100th 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
16 against the Axis powers on the European and Pacific
17 battlefields, while having to combat distrust, racial prejudice,
18 and discrimination at home. A Nisei Veterans Legacy Center



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

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

12 The Honouliuli Internment Camp is a major historical site
13 located on property currently owned by Monsanto in West Oahu.
14 The United States National Park Service, Japanese Cultural
15 Center of Hawaii, University of Hawaii-West Oahu, State of
16 Hawaii, Monsanto, and other stakeholders are working to preserve
17 and share the existing remnants of the internment camp, with a
18 planned educational center and memorial. In 2012, the
19 legislature established a Honouliuli advisory group to develop
20 recommendations to help develop this site with government and
21 private resources, and the group will continue to meet through
22 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
4 Honouliuli Internment Camp Educational Center. The legislature
5 intends for a matching source of private or public funds to be
6 secured prior to 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 \$ 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.

21 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

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

Description:

Appropriates funds for the planning, design, and construction of the Nisei Veterans Legacy Center and a Honouliuli Internment Camp Education 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. Effective July 1, 2050. (HB1396 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

