
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO
REESTABLISH A VECTOR CONTROL BRANCH.

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

1 SECTION 1. Vector control involves controlling the spread
2 of animals that have the potential to carry disease, from
3 rodents to insects, including mosquitoes. However, the Hawaii
4 department of health currently has no vector control branch and
5 its vector control unit suffered severe funding cuts several
6 years ago.

7 According to a June 17, 2015, news story on KHON2,
8 department of health officials plan to hire more workers for its
9 vector control unit, but the department still will not have
10 nearly as many workers as it once did. A wave of cost-cutting
11 in 2009 eliminated dozens of workers tasked with controlling
12 mosquitoes and rats.

13 The legislature finds that the current outbreak of dengue
14 fever necessitates an appropriation to the department of health
15 to hire more vector control employees and reestablish a vector
16 control branch.



H.B. NO. 2061

1 The purpose of this Act is to make an appropriation for the
 2 department of health to hire more full-time employees for vector
 3 control and reestablish a vector control branch.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 to
 7 the department of health to hire four full-time equivalent (4.0
 8 FTE) positions for vector control, including a vector control
 9 program manager and three staff positions, and to take steps to
 10 fully reestablish a vector control sector branch within the
 11 department's environmental health administration.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 13 health for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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H.B. NO. 2061

Report Title:

Appropriation; Health; Vector Control

Description:

Makes an appropriation to the department of health to hire more vector control employees and reestablish a vector control branch.

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