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# 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 department of  
2 theatre and dance at the University of Hawaii at Manoa is  
3 committed to providing its students with the finest training and  
4 performance opportunities in the world, and produces versatile  
5 graduates who develop the necessary knowledge, skill sets, and  
6 experiences expected in their chosen fields. Due to its award-  
7 winning programs and a unique geographical location that bridges  
8 the East and the West, the department has also received local,  
9 national, and international recognition. The department has  
10 received an imperial decoration from the government of Japan; a  
11 Rockefeller award from the Asian Cultural Council; a Kong  
12 Sanchuan award from China's national xiqu (Chinese opera) music  
13 association; a golden chrysanthemum award from China's national  
14 festival of jingju (Beijing opera); a 1987 state house of  
15 representatives certificate of commendation for "furthering  
16 international education and cultural exchange"; a 1990 state  
17 house of representatives certificate of congratulations for



1 "enriching the lives of the People of Hawaii" through  
2 "extraordinary contributions to Asian theatre"; a 1985 state  
3 senate certificate of commendation for "furthering U.S.- China  
4 relations"; regional and national awards from the Kennedy Center  
5 American college theatre festival; regional and national awards  
6 from the American College Dance Festival; numerous Fulbright  
7 awards; Ford Foundation grants; Freeman Foundation grants;  
8 publication and production awards and support from the Ministry  
9 of Culture of the People's Republic of China (Beijing) and the  
10 Jiangsu Province Department of Culture (Nanjing); and numerous  
11 Hawaii State Theatre Council and Hawaii State Dance Council  
12 awards.

13       The department has also participated in national and  
14 international dance tours and Asian theatre productions. The  
15 Association for Asian Performance named Dr. Elizabeth Wichmann-  
16 Walczak, a professor of the department, one of six prestigious  
17 "Mothers of Asian Theatre Study in North America". Students  
18 from the department have received the prestigious Doyle  
19 fellowship from the American Alliance for Theatre and Education;  
20 numerous fellowships and recognition by the Confucius China  
21 studies program from the Hanban (Ministry of the People's



1 Republic of China, Beijing); the Chiang-Ching Kuo international  
2 fellowship for Chinese studies; the Crown Prince Akihito award  
3 and scholarship; and the Japan Foundation research fellowship.

4 The legislature further finds that the department's  
5 national and international involvement brings recognition and  
6 status to the University of Hawaii and the entire State.

7 However, while similar departments at some of the nation's other  
8 state universities receive regular state and institutional  
9 funding for productions and non-tenure track positions that are  
10 essential for those productions, the University of Hawaii at  
11 Manoa's department of theatre and dance does not receive  
12 comparable support for productions and necessary staffing.

13 Since 1997, the department has experienced a substantial  
14 decrease in funding from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, to  
15 the extent that its program offerings affect student graduation  
16 and, even more severely, its renowned international Asian  
17 theatre program. Decreased funding has also resulted in a  
18 reduction in equipment, supplies, and staff, which has lowered  
19 department morale, student opportunities required for  
20 educational theatres, and the number of performances for the  
21 community.



1           The purpose of this Act is to support the department of  
2 theatre and dance at the University of Hawaii at Manoa by  
3 appropriating funds for:

4           (1) One full-time equivalent tenure track professor (1.0  
5 FTE) in the Hawaiian theatre program;

6           (2) Two full-time staff positions (2.0 FTE), one of whom  
7 shall serve the department's costume shop, and one of  
8 whom shall serve the department's scene shop;

9           (3) The hiring of guest artists and instructors;

10          (4) The department's Asian theatre program; and

11          (5) Production support, including basic shop supplies.

12          SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so much  
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for one  
15 full-time equivalent tenure track professor (1.0 FTE) in the  
16 University of Hawaii at Manoa's Hawaiian theatre program.

17          The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
18 Hawaii at Manoa for the purposes of this Act.

19          SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so much  
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for two

1 full-time equivalent staff positions (2.0 FTE) in the University  
2 of Hawaii at Manoa's department of theatre and dance; provided  
3 that one position shall serve the department's costume shop and  
4 other position shall serve the department's scene shop.

5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
6 Hawaii at Manoa for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 4. 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 2016-2017 for guest  
10 artists and instructors for the University of Hawaii at Manoa's  
11 department of theatre and dance.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
13 Hawaii at Manoa for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
17 University of Hawaii at Manoa's Asian theatre program.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
19 Hawaii at Manoa for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
2 production support, including basic shop supplies, for the  
3 University of Hawaii at Manoa's department of theatre and dance.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
5 Hawaii at Manoa for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2525.



**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii at Manoa; Department of Theatre and Dance;  
Appropriations

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for various programs and supporting functions  
for the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of  
Hawaii at Manoa. (HB2492 HD2)

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

