
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
18 "enriching the lives of the People of Hawaii" through



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

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



1 fellowship for Chinese studies; the Crown Prince Akihito award
2 and scholarship; and the Japan Foundation research fellowship.

3 The legislature further finds that the department's
4 national and international involvement brings recognition and
5 status to the University of Hawaii and the entire State.
6 However, while similar departments at some of the nation's other
7 state universities receive regular state and institutional
8 funding for productions and non-tenure track positions that are
9 essential for those productions, the University of Hawaii at
10 Manoa's department of theatre and dance does not receive
11 comparable support for productions and necessary staffing.

12 Since 1997, the department has experienced a substantial
13 decrease in funding from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, to
14 the extent that its program offerings affect student graduation
15 and, even more severely, its renowned international Asian
16 theatre program. Decreased funding has also resulted in a
17 reduction in equipment, supplies, and staff, which has lowered
18 department morale, student opportunities required for
19 educational theatres, and the number of performances for the
20 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
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for
15 one 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
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for



1 two full-time equivalent staff positions (2.0 FTE) in the
2 University of Hawaii at Manoa's department of theatre and dance;
3 provided that one position shall serve the department's costume
4 shop and 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
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for
10 guest artists and instructors for the University of Hawaii at
11 Manoa's 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
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for
17 the 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



1 much 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, 2025.

7



H.B. NO. 2492
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

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. Effective 7/1/2025. (SD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

