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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to address the  
2 intercollegiate athletics program of the University of Hawaii.

3           More specifically, this Act:

4           (1) Appropriates moneys from the tourism special fund for  
5           fiscal year 2016-2017 for travel expenses and  
6           subsidies incurred for the intercollegiate athletics  
7           program of the University of Hawaii; and

8           (2) Requires the governor to determine whether the funding  
9           from the tourism special fund for the travel expenses  
10          and subsidies of the intercollegiate athletics program  
11          of the University of Hawaii should continue beyond  
12          fiscal year 2016-2017. If the governor determines  
13          that the funding should continue, then the governor is  
14          required to take appropriate action to implement the  
15          funding.

16          The intercollegiate athletics program of the University of  
17 Hawaii is unique. The costs for University of Hawaii athletes



1 to travel to the mainland are high. Moreover, the University  
2 must subsidize the travel expenses of some visiting teams that  
3 come to Hawaii.

4 The legislature finds that the community places a high  
5 value on and takes much pride in the intercollegiate athletics  
6 program of the University of Hawaii. All teams and individuals  
7 competing for the University of Hawaii have dedicated fans who  
8 enjoy the efforts of the athletes and entertainment of sports  
9 contests. In contemporary society, intercollegiate athletics  
10 receive much publicity and media coverage and the participation  
11 of the University of Hawaii in various sports increases the  
12 exposure of people on the mainland and in foreign countries to  
13 the State of Hawaii. University of Hawaii athletes are also  
14 ambassadors of Aloha when they travel out-of-state and athletes  
15 have an opportunity to uniquely and authentically represent  
16 Hawaii. University of Hawaii games and events that are  
17 televised nationally and internationally also are important  
18 marketing tools to attract visitors to the State and showcase  
19 its premier higher education institution. Family, friends, and  
20 supporters of visiting schools often accompany the teams and  
21 stay for an extended time after the games.



1           Consequently, the legislature finds that use of the tourism  
2 special fund, the proceeds of which are primarily derived from  
3 the transient accommodations tax, is justifiable for the travel  
4 expenses and subsidies incurred by the University of Hawaii for  
5 its intercollegiate athletics program.

6           The legislature further finds that the governor should  
7 determine whether the use of the tourism special fund for travel  
8 expenses and subsidies of the intercollegiate athletic program  
9 of the University of Hawaii should continue beyond fiscal year  
10 2016-2017.

11           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the tourism  
12 special fund of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$           or so  
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for  
14 the payment of travel expenses and travel subsidies incurred for  
15 the intercollegiate athletic program of the University of  
16 Hawaii.

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

19           SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary  
20 in chapter 201B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, chapter 237D, Hawaii  
21 Revised Statutes, or any other law, the expenditure of the



1 appropriation in section 2 for the purpose specified in that  
2 section for fiscal year 2016-2017 shall be authorized.

3 SECTION 4. (a) The governor shall determine whether the  
4 travel expenses and subsidies incurred for the intercollegiate  
5 athletics program of the University of Hawaii should continue to  
6 be funded from the tourism special fund beyond fiscal year 2016-  
7 2017.

8 (b) If the governor determines that funding from the  
9 tourism special fund for the intercollegiate athletics program  
10 of the University of Hawaii should continue, the governor:

11 (1) Shall include an appropriation request in the  
12 executive budget for fiscal biennium 2017-2019 to  
13 implement funding from the tourism special fund; and

14 (2) May recommend necessary amendments to chapter 201B or  
15 chapter 237D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

16 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2120.



**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii Intercollegiate Athletics Program; Tourism  
Special Fund Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes an appropriation from the tourism special fund for fiscal year 2016-2017 for travel expenses and subsidies incurred by the intercollegiate athletics program of the University of Hawaii. Requires the governor to determine whether such funding should continue beyond fiscal year 2016-2017 and take appropriate action to implement the determination. (SB83 HD1)

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

