

JAN 23 2015

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE KAHO'OLAWA ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature has historically found that the  
2 island of Kaho'olawe has significant cultural and historical  
3 importance to the native people of Hawaii. The Kaho'olawe island  
4 reserve commission was established to effectively address the  
5 unique challenges of preserving, restoring, and determining the  
6 appropriate use of Kaho'olawe.

7           The Kaho'olawe island reserve commission is primarily funded  
8 by the Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund that was created  
9 during the federal cleanup of unexploded ordnance on Kaho'olawe.  
10 The federal appropriation of approximately \$44,000,000 over a  
11 seven-year period, while considerable, was insufficient to  
12 establish a sustainable endowment for the long term operation of  
13 the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission's operations. In a 1993  
14 report to congress, it was envisioned that in the long term, the  
15 State would provide the funding to continue and enhance the  
16 activities initiated by federal funding.



1           In 2004, the management and control of Kaho'olawe was  
2 transferred from the Navy to the State. The Kaho'olawe island  
3 reserve commission was designated as the state agency  
4 responsible for the use and restoration of Kaho'olawe.

5           A 2013 report by the office of the auditor found that the  
6 Kaho'olawe rehabilitation trust fund will be depleted by 2016 and  
7 secondly, that the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission lacked a  
8 comprehensive and quantifiable restoration plan with performance  
9 measures to determine whether objectives were being met. In  
10 response, the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission began holding  
11 numerous meetings and working groups on all islands that  
12 resulted in the issuance of a community based strategic plan for  
13 Kaho'olawe entitled "I Ola Kanaloa".

14           Without additional funding the Kaho'olawe island reserve  
15 commission will be financially unable to continue its management  
16 of the Kaho'olawe island reserve beyond the 2015-2016 fiscal  
17 year. The legislature finds that it is important to continue  
18 the programs of the Kaho'olawe island reserve commission.

19           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the  
20 Kaho'olawe island reserve commission to effectively meet the



1 unique challenges of managing, restoring, and preserving the  
2 appropriate and safe uses of the Kaho'olawe island reserve for  
3 the people of Hawaii.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$6,000,000 or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
7 management, restoration, and preservation of the Kaho'olawe  
8 island reserve.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Kaho'olawe  
10 island reserve commission for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
12 provided that section 2 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,  
13 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY:

J. Kalani Ghosh

Paul E. Baker

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# S.B. NO. 897

**Report Title:**

Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission; Appropriation for Fiscal Year 2016

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the 2016-2017 fiscal year to the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission for the management, restoration, and preservation of the Kaho'olawe island reserve.

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