
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that on April 1, 1917,
2 the American flagged merchant ship SS Aztec was sunk by the
3 Imperial German Navy in the Atlantic Ocean, killing several
4 Hawaii merchant mariners who were among Hawaii's first
5 casualties of World War I. Following this act of aggression, on
6 April 2, 1917, the President asked the United States Congress
7 for a declaration of war against the German Empire.

8 The legislature further finds that on April 6, 1917, the
9 United States of America declared war on the German Empire as an
10 independent power and did not officially join the allies. This
11 declaration launched the United States into World War I, or as
12 it was known at the time "the Great War". During this conflict,
13 approximately ten thousand men and women from the Territory of
14 Hawaii volunteered to serve in the Great War.

15 The legislature further finds that on April 29, 2015, the
16 governor committed the State to establishing a World War I
17 centennial committee by November 11, 2015. It is important to



H.B. NO. 1438

1 honor the sacrifices of the men and women who served in the
2 Great War, and to remember the suffering and loss of life of all
3 who were involved.

4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to honor
5 the one-hundredth anniversary of World War I with programs,
6 ceremonies, and activities that will commence on April 2, 2017.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general funds
8 of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much thereof as
9 may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the same sum or
10 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019
11 for the purpose of commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary
12 of World War I with programs, ceremonies, and activities.

13 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the state
14 department of defense for the purpose of this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Chris Chiu
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H.B. NO. 1438

Report Title:

World War I Centennial Commemoration; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I.

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