
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR HE'EIA NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The National Estuarine Research Reserve System
2 is a network of twenty-eight protected areas along America's
3 coasts. According to the *National Estuarine Research Reserve*
4 *System Strategic Plan 2011-2016*, the System is founded on the
5 principle that long-term protection of representative estuaries
6 provides stable platforms for research and education and the
7 application of management practices that will benefit the
8 nation's estuaries and coasts.

9 The legislature finds that the State has coordinated with
10 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to
11 nominate He'eia estuary as a National Estuarine Research Reserve.
12 The site, located on Oahu's windward shore, includes He'eia state
13 park, fishpond, and wetlands as well as marine waters with patch
14 and fringing reefs and Moku o Lo'e (Coconut Island). In 2014,
15 He'eia was officially nominated as a Reserve to support NOAA's
16 policy to encourage expansion of the program in unrepresented



1 areas of the country. NOAA is currently poised to begin
2 implementation of He'eia Reserve's management plan.

3 For He'eia Reserve to succeed in its function within the
4 System, funding for initial staffing is essential. The initial
5 staffing needs are four full-time equivalent (4.00 FTE)
6 positions: a reserve manager, education coordinator, research
7 coordinator, and cultural resource coordinator. Although the
8 University of Hawaii has agreed to fund these positions in the
9 first year, additional funding is required to maintain the
10 positions and to keep He'eia Reserve fully functioning. These
11 positions must be established as well as maintained to develop
12 and manage He'eia reserve and keep it fully functioning. The
13 legislature notes that as funding or partnership opportunities
14 become available, additional staff will be required within the
15 first five years to meet management plan goals and objectives.

16 The purpose of this Act is to support He'eia estuary in its
17 designation as a National Estuarine Research Reserve by
18 appropriating funds to maintain the initial staff positions that
19 are necessary to develop and manage He'eia Reserve and its
20 programs.



1 SECTION 2. Contractors and other third parties who receive
 2 funds under this Act may be subject to review and inspection by
 3 the department of land and natural resources, the attorney
 4 general, or the auditor. Upon request by such agencies, the
 5 contractor or third party shall be required to submit for review
 6 all files, records, documents, and accounting related to the use
 7 and expenditure of funds received pursuant to this Act, whether
 8 the funds were received via contract, grant, or other agreement.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the
 10 special fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be
 11 necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the hiring of four full-
 12 time equivalent (4.00 FTE) permanent positions in the University
 13 of Hawaii to maintain the initial staff positions that are
 14 necessary to develop and manage He'eia reserve and its programs,
 15 as follows:

- 16 (1) \$ for one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE)
 17 reserve manager position;
- 18 (2) \$ for one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE)
 19 education coordinator position;
- 20 (3) \$ for one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE)
 21 research coordinator position; and



1 (4) \$ for one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE)
2 cultural resource coordinator position.

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

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve; Staff Hiring;
University of Hawaii; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 for the initial staff positions that are necessary to develop and manage the He'eia National Estuarine Research Reserve and its programs.
(HB588 HD1)

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