
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AQUACULTURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that mullet production
2 for fishponds and stock enhancement contributes to food
3 security, cultural preservation, and education and
4 collaboration. The legislature further finds that the division
5 of aquatic resources of the department of land and natural
6 resources received \$300,000 in 2023 for fishpond support.
7 Furthermore, the legislature finds that a long-term solution to
8 provide pua (juvenile stripe mullet) was identified as a
9 priority and as a result, the funds were awarded to Waianae high
10 school, which has an aquaculture system and expressed interest
11 in breeding mullet.

12 Moreover, the legislature notes that these funds were used
13 to pay the Oceanic Institute of Hawaii Pacific University to
14 produce pua and train two interns on how to breed mullet. The
15 mullet produced will be distributed to fishponds on Oahu.

16 In addition, the legislature finds that there is also
17 interest in using the division of aquatic resources' Anuenue



1 fisheries research center at Sand Island on Oahu and Wailoa
 2 fisheries research station in Hilo, Hawaii, as space for the pua
 3 to grow prior to their release, as this is believed to increase
 4 survivorship rates. These fish would be provided to fishponds
 5 on Oahu and Hawaii island and released in public areas, such as
 6 the Wailoa estuary. The legislature further finds that other
 7 restorative aquaculture projects, including limu, moi,
 8 aholehole, and wetland plants, could also be explored.

9 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
 10 funds for mullet production for fishponds and stock enhancement,
 11 including for positions, equipment, and maintenance and
 12 operating costs.

13 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
 16 the following positions:

- 17 (1) full-time equivalent (FTE) aquatic biologist
- 18 V positions, at the division of aquatic
- 19 resources' Anuenue fisheries research center on Oahu
- 20 and at Waianae high school in Waianae, Oahu;



1 (2) full-time equivalent (FTE) aquatic biologist
2 IV positions, at the division of aquatic
3 resources' Anuenue fisheries research center on Oahu
4 and at the division of aquatic resources' Wailoa
5 fisheries research station in Hilo, Hawaii;

6 (3) full-time equivalent (FTE) fishery
7 technician V positions, at the division of
8 aquatic resources' Anuenue fisheries research center
9 on Oahu, at Waianae high school in Waianae, Oahu,
10 and at the division of aquatic resources' Wailoa
11 fisheries research station in Hilo, Hawaii; and

12 (4) full-time equivalent (FTE) fishery
13 technician IV positions at Waianae high school in
14 Waianae, Oahu.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
16 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for:

20 (1) Shipping containers for office space and plankton
21 production;



- 1 (2) Tanks;
- 2 (3) Backup generators; and
- 3 (4) Hatchery equipment,
- 4 for the division of aquatic resources' Anuenue fisheries
- 5 research center on Oahu and Wailoa fisheries research station in
- 6 Hilo, Hawaii, and for Waianae high school in Waianae, Oahu.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 8 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
 12 maintenance and operating costs for restorative aquaculture
 13 projects, such as mullet production for fishponds and stock
 14 enhancement, including feed, supplies, electricity, and water.

15 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
 16 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 5. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
 18 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
 19 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
 20 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
 21 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be



1 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
2 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
3 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
4 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
5 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
6 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
7 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
8 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
9 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 10 (1) The appropriations made in this Act are necessary to
11 serve the public interest; and
- 12 (2) The appropriations made in this Act meet the needs
13 addressed by this Act.

14 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

Aquaculture; Mullet Production; Fishponds and Stock Enhancement;
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Appropriates funds for mullet production for fishponds and stock enhancement, including for new positions, equipment, maintenance, and operating costs. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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