

JAN 19 2024

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that while basic waiting
2 lists of department of Hawaiian home lands homestead lease
3 applicants are available for download on the department's
4 website, the exact details of each applicant, including
5 information regarding whether the person has applied for
6 multiple leases, been denied a prior lease, or been skipped
7 over, are not readily accessible, even for department staff.
8 Beneficiary records of the department of Hawaiian home lands are
9 spread across multiple locations. If a beneficiary seeks to
10 determine the beneficiary's status, finding and gathering that
11 information can require weeks of work.

12 The legislature further finds that the compilation of
13 applicant information into a single interactive database would
14 increase efficiency within the department of Hawaiian home
15 lands. A digital database would provide clear, transparent,
16 current, and timely information to beneficiaries and the public.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
2 department of Hawaiian home lands to complete an assessment and
3 report on the feasibility of creating an interactive digital
4 database software program that compiles information from its
5 beneficiary waiting lists and other related data.

6 SECTION 2. (a) The department of Hawaiian home lands,
7 with the assistance of the office of enterprise technology
8 services, shall complete an assessment and report on the
9 feasibility of creating an interactive digital database software
10 program compiling its applicant, beneficiary, and lessee
11 records. The interactive digital database software program
12 shall contain relevant information on each individual's
13 homestead lease application status, number of applications,
14 address, number of denied leases, designated successors, history
15 of obtaining leases as an applicant or as a successor, and other
16 relevant information as determined by the Hawaiian homes
17 commission.

18 (b) The department of Hawaiian home lands shall submit a
19 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
20 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than July 1,
21 2025.



1 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
2 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
3 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
4 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
5 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
6 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
7 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
8 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
9 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
10 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
11 ceiling are that:

- 12 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
13 serve the public interest; and
- 14 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
15 addressed by this Act.

16 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
19 the department of Hawaiian home lands to assess and report on
20 the feasibility of creating an interactive digital database



S.B. NO. 2180

1 software program compiling the department of Hawaiian home
2 lands' applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 Hawaiian home lands for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Lyn DeCote



S.B. NO. 2180

Report Title:

Native Hawaiian Caucus; DHHL; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; Beneficiary List; Database; Report to Legislature; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to complete an assessment and report on the feasibility of digitizing its applicant, beneficiary, and lessee records and creating an interactive digital database software program. Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to submit a report to the Legislature by 7/1/2025. Makes an appropriation.

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

