

ACT 163

S. B. NO. 775

A Bill for an Act Relating to an Ethnic Studies Program and Making an Appropriation Therefor.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that the multitude of ethnic backgrounds which reside in the State justifiably lends itself to Hawaii's fame as the "melting pot of the Pacific". The legislature further recognizes that a limited number of studies and books have been written about the Hawaiian experience and the cultural contributions of the Japanese, Caucasian, Chinese, and Hawaiian and that an even fewer number focus on the Filipino, Portuguese, Puerto Rican, Korean, Afro-American, and Samoan, all of which constitute the State's cultural heritage. The legislature further recognizes that the key to much of cultural knowledge is in the people themselves, particularly the older persons who lived through crucial transition periods in the State's history. Recognizing that such information on cultural and social practices may remain untapped and realizing that for many of the

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older persons, oral communication is the only method to acquire such information from them, the legislature finds that there is a need for an ethnic studies program for every major ethnic group in the State and that the data collected from various projects dealing with ethnic studies should be housed in a centralized repository. The purpose of this Act is to provide for an ethnic studies program and a centralized repository for the maintenance of cultural studies, art, and artifacts.

SECTION 2. There is established an ethnic studies program in the office of the governor which shall be responsible for:

- (1) Recording Hawaii's social and cultural history through oral or written communications with kamaaina Hawaiians and experts;
- (2) Subsidizing studies in all major ethnic groups wishing to have ethnic study programs; and
- (3) Housing ethnic studies in a centralized repository.

The governor may contract for services with the Hawaii Foundation for History and the Humanities, the University of Hawaii, or any private or public organization for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the governor for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved May 30, 1971)