

**ACT 161**

S.B. NO. 638

A Bill for an Act Making an Appropriation for the Molokai Irrigation System.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Molokai's water shortage has reached a critical stage. The stability of Molokai's agriculture industry is in jeopardy and immediate action needs to be taken. This urgently needed appropriation is necessary to ensure that adequate irrigation water is available for users of the Molokai irrigation system.

The purpose of the Act is to appropriate \$100,000 in general funds in fiscal year 2001-2002 for pumping of water for the Molokai irrigation system until the reservoir water level reaches the forty-foot level, or until the funds are expended.

SECTION 2. 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 fiscal year 2001-2002, to pay for pumping of water for the Molokai irrigation system to bring the reservoir water level to the forty-foot level; provided that the department of agriculture shall coordinate the times of withdrawal of water with the commission on water resource management and recognize that the lessees of the Hawaiian homes commission have prior right to two-thirds of the water from the Molokai irrigation system upon showing of actual need therefore pursuant to section 168-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of agriculture for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2001.

(Approved May 25, 2001.)