

ACT 181

H.B. NO. 848

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Hawaii Institute for Marine Biology.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii institute of marine biology is a center of innovation for science and technology, place-based education, and indigenous resource management approaches, with a mission to advance understanding and stewardship of oceans and coasts locally and globally.

The Hawaii institute of marine biology hosts a world-class research and education institute that, at present, is critically understaffed, even though it is one of the most complex research operations at the University of Hawaii, and is responsible for maintaining its own entire island infrastructure; overseeing a marine special management area; managing its own National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit with the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Hawaii department of health; managing its own photovoltaic power purchase agreement; running its own diving and boating programs; and maintaining all of its own facilities, grounds, and utilities. The institute is home to twenty-eight faculty who are all highly productive and well-recognized for their excellence in various disciplines of tropical marine biology and education, making the institute unlike almost any other marine lab in the world due to the proximity of high-end research facilities to a living coral reef and a dedicated faculty of scientists and science educators.

The legislature further finds that the Hawaii institute of marine biology's twenty-six acre campus and associated facilities bring in nearly \$9,000,000 in research, education, and outreach funds annually. The programs at the institute, which provide direct benefits to local students and the State, are dependent on permanent support staff who possess the institutional knowledge to efficiently navigate the processes of the State and University of Hawaii.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to establish new permanent support staff positions, which are critical to sustaining daily operations for the initiatives at the Hawaii institute of marine biology.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$65,352 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent administrative, professional, and technical building main-

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tenance worker II position to support the Hawaii institute of marine biology (UH100).

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$80,766 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent administrative, professional, and technical administrative officer position to support the Hawaii institute of marine biology (UH100).

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. 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 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent administrative, professional, and technical website specialist position to support the Hawaii institute of marine biology (UH100).

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the appropriations contained in H.B. No. 300, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1,¹ will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be exceeded by \$1,063,767,367 or 10 per cent. In addition, the appropriations contained in this Act will cause the general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be further exceeded by \$246,118 or 1 per cent. The combined total amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be exceeded by \$1,064,013,485 or 11 per cent. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

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

SECTION 6. In the event manifest clerical, typographical, or other mechanical errors are found in this Act, the governor is hereby authorized to correct such errors.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

(Approved July 3, 2023.)

Note

1. Act 164.