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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the office of the  
2 public defender provides necessary legal representation to  
3 indigent individuals in criminal, involuntary commitment, and  
4 family law cases as required by the United States and Hawaii  
5 constitutions, statutes, and judicial opinions. The legislature  
6 further finds that Act 9, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, defunded  
7 six positions in the office of the public defender, and the  
8 positions were later abolished.

9           The purpose of this Act is to fund four deputy public  
10 defender positions and require that one deputy public defender  
11 be assigned to the family court section.

12           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for  
15 four full-time equivalent (4.0 FTE) deputy public defender  
16 positions within the office of the public defender (BUF151);



1 provided that one deputy public defender shall be assigned to  
2 the family court section.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the  
4 public defender for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII, of  
6 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and  
7 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined  
8 that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the  
9 state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025  
10 to be exceeded by \$ , or per cent. The reasons  
11 for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the  
12 appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the public  
13 interest and to meet the needs provided for by this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



**Report Title:**

Office of the Public Defender; Appropriation; Expenditure  
Ceiling

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for four deputy public defender positions within the Office of the Public Defender and requires that one of the positions be assigned to the family court section. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)

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

