H.B. NO. 2162

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE OPIHI RESTORATION PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in recent years, the 2 popularity of opihi as a delicacy has resulted in 3 overharvesting, bringing about a dramatic decline in the number 4 of edible opihi found throughout Hawaii. Opihi continues to be 5 difficult to obtain in its natural habitat on each island. A 6 diverse group of scientists, private businesses, and community 7 organizations have been collaborating to address the declining 8 opihi populations and the general lack of scientific information on this culturally important group of shellfish. 9 10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for an 11 opihi restoration program to: 12 (1)Obtain a current baseline population of Hawaiian opihi 13 for opihi management and restocking purposes; and Establish a hatchery-based opihi stocking program to 14 (2) 15 enhance the depleted natural populations of opihi in

16 Hawaii.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$168,000 or so much HB LRB 08-0865.doc 8

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thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
Hawaii sea grant college program to implement the opihi
restoration program, including salaries, rent, materials and
supplies, and other costs of the program.

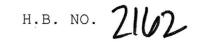
5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of6 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

Cindy Evans INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 1 4 2008

HB LRB 08-0865.doc



Report Title:

Conservation and Resources; Opihi Restoration Project

Description:

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii for the opihi restoration project, a hatchery-based restocking program to enhance depleted natural populations of opihi.

