
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FOREIGN LANGUAGE PROGRAMS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Filipino community has grown since their
2 arrival to Hawaii 101 years ago. Approximately one out of every
3 four Hawaii residents is of Filipino ancestry or over a quarter
4 million people.

5 Hawaii has the fourth highest percentage of immigrants in
6 the country. Of the 212,229 foreign-born residents in Hawaii in
7 2000, almost half (48 per cent) were from the Philippines. More
8 than 40 per cent of Filipinos living in Hawaii are under the age
9 of 25. About 36,595 Filipino students (21 per cent) are
10 enrolled in Hawaii's public school system, in grades
11 kindergarten through twelve.

12 However, despite their representation in the general
13 population and in elementary and high school, Filipinos are
14 underrepresented in higher education. Filipinos represent 21
15 per cent of the public school enrollment, yet only 15 per cent
16 of the Filipino population 25 years of age and over has earned a
17 bachelor's degree or higher, placing Filipinos below all other
18 major ethnic groups in Hawaii in terms of higher education.



1 Although underrepresented among the student population at
2 Windward community college (six per cent), University of Hawaii
3 at Hilo (five per cent), and University of Hawaii at Manoa
4 (eight per cent), Filipino student representation is substantial
5 on the following campuses: Hawaii community college (13 per
6 cent), Honolulu community college (21 per cent), Kapiolani
7 community college (14 per cent), Kauai community college (23 per
8 cent), Leeward community college (26 per cent), Maui community
9 college (18 per cent), and the University of Hawaii at West Oahu
10 (14 per cent).

11 A significant issue for Filipino students and the Filipino
12 community is the availability and stability of curriculum
13 offerings in the Filipino languages, as well as course offerings
14 on Filipino-American ethnic and Philippine studies. There is an
15 important need to increase the representation of Filipino
16 students, as well as professionals trained in the Filipino
17 languages and cultures who can work in the area of education,
18 health, legal services, and commerce. Offering these courses in
19 the Filipino languages and cultures on University of Hawaii
20 campuses will increase academic interest and student success.
21 Providing these educational opportunities at the various



1 campuses is consistent with the University of Hawaii's strategic
2 plans and is responsive to state needs.

3 The University of Hawaii boasts the largest number of
4 students on any United States college campus taking a Filipino
5 language course, and the University of Manoa is the only
6 institution that offers a bachelor of arts in the languages and
7 literature of the Philippines. Leeward community college offers
8 Philippine studies courses and Kapiolani community college
9 offers lectures on Filipino languages. However, Filipino
10 students and community leaders have recently expressed concern
11 because these courses are not offered on many of the University
12 of Hawaii system campuses.

13 There has been strong interest at Kauai community college
14 and Hawaii community college to have language courses taught
15 onsite and complemented by online instruction. In addition, the
16 University of Hawaii at Hilo is also interested in offering
17 Philippine-related courses. Filipinos at the University of
18 Hawaii at West Oahu have expressed interest in Hawaii ethnic
19 studies and service learning courses. Expertise is available at
20 the University of Hawaii campus at Manoa to assist in developing
21 the curriculum of these language courses as well as Philippine
22 courses and ethnic studies and service learning opportunities.



1 Funding is needed for partnerships between student affairs
2 units working with recruitment and retention issues and academic
3 units that can offer Philippine language courses and ethnic
4 studies and service learning projects, as well as for
5 development of partnerships with the public schools, other
6 University of Hawaii campuses, community groups, and government
7 agencies.

8 Although providing full-time positions at every campus
9 would be ideal, the purpose of this Act is to provide funding
10 for:

11 (1) Limited resources that can be shared by more than one
12 campus (e.g. curriculum development of language
13 courses by faculty from more than one campus, and
14 online courses);

15 (2) Development, instructional delivery, community service
16 opportunity, online courses, and recruitment and
17 retention of student services for the vice chancellor
18 for student services at the various campuses as
19 follows:

20 (A) \$50,000 for University of Hawaii at Hilo;

21 (B) \$100,000 for Hawaii, Honolulu, Kauai, Kapiolani,
22 Leeward, and Maui community colleges;



1 (C) \$50,000 for the University of Hawaii at West
2 Oahu; and

3 (D) \$50,000 for the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for the
7 vice chancellor for student affairs at the various University of
8 Hawaii system campuses for shared resources for Filipino
9 language and culture programs as follows:

10 (1) \$50,000 for the University of Hawaii at Hilo;

11 (2) \$100,000 for Hawaii, Honolulu, Kauai, Kapiolani,
12 Leeward, and Maui community colleges;

13 (3) \$50,000 for the University of Hawaii at West Oahu; and

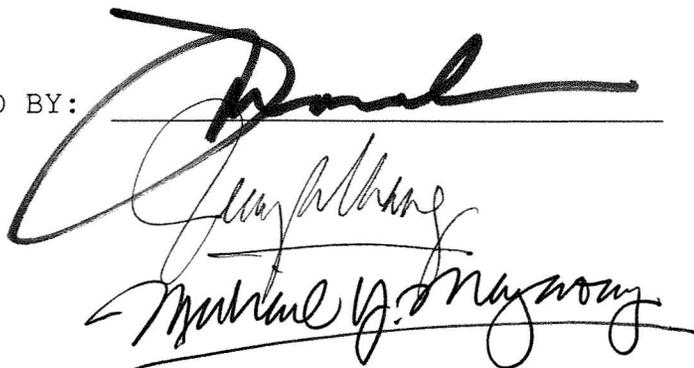
14 (4) \$50,000 for the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

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

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

18

INTRODUCED BY:





Report Title:

Filipino Language and Ethnic Studies; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii system to provide Filipino language and ethnic studies courses systemwide.

