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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE LIBRARIAN'S SALARY.

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

1           SECTION 1. Existing law authorizes the board of education  
2 to set the salary of the state librarian as long as the salary  
3 does not exceed a specific amount--also referred to as a salary  
4 cap.

5           It has been and continues to be a challenge to recruit for  
6 and fill this position in state leadership, because the  
7 statutory salary cap does not align with national salary norms  
8 and is therefore not competitive with or even in the range of  
9 the salaries of similar leadership positions at comparable  
10 library systems.

11           The statute governing the state librarian's salary has not  
12 been amended since 2001, and the salary cap should be revised as  
13 a matter of equity to account for cost-of-living increases.

14 This Act amends the current salary cap for the state librarian  
15 based on a national review of the salaries of library directors  
16 who oversee library systems that have comparable budgets and  
17 numbers of employees and serve populations of similar size.



1 This national review of salaries of similar positions in other  
2 states supports the change to a higher salary cap. In Hawaii,  
3 the state librarian is responsible for a statewide district,  
4 whereas library directors in most other parts of the nation are  
5 responsible for the library system of only a city or county.

6 The amendment to the salary cap will also provide the board  
7 of education with more discretion in hiring and retaining the  
8 top librarian for Hawaii's public libraries.

9 The purpose of this Act is to provide the board of  
10 education, as the appointing body of the state librarian, with  
11 more flexibility to establish the salary of the state librarian  
12 by adjusting the salary cap for the state librarian position.

13 SECTION 2. Section 312-2.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

15 "(b) The salary of the state librarian shall be set by the  
16 board of education [~~at a rate no greater than \$120,000 a year.~~];  
17 provided that the salary of the state librarian shall not exceed  
18 the salary of the superintendent."

19 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

21 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2051.



**Report Title:**

Librarian Salary

**Description:**

Adjusts the salary cap on the State Librarian position. (HB1091 HD1)

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