### A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the University of 2 Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human resources is in critical need of personnel for its cooperative extension service 3 4 to improve and strengthen Hawaii's sustainability in agriculture through educational programs. The college of tropical 5 6 agriculture and human resources houses a cooperative extension 7 service, which partners with federal, state, and county governments to provide science-based information and education 8 9 programs in agriculture, natural resources, and human resources. 10 The cooperative extension service offices are located throughout 11 the State, with roughly twenty-five extension agents statewide. 12 The cooperative extension service provides valuable tools 13 accessible to the public to strengthen communities and sustain Hawaii's agricultural economy. Extension personnel provide 14 15 various services to the communities within each county, ranging from individual consultations, educational workshops, and short 16

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1 courses on relevant subjects, including home economics, family 2 living, 4-H and other youth activities, nutrition, and health. 3 The legislature also finds that, over the past twenty 4 years, the college of tropical agriculture and human resources 5 cooperative extension service has experienced a forty-three per 6 cent decrease in extension agents who service the various 7 counties, including a twenty-seven per cent decrease since 2008. 8 Many of the community services that the extension service offers 9 have been cut, most importantly ornamental plant services, which 10 production exceeds \$70,000,000 annually in wholesale value.

11 The purpose of this Act is to address the budgetary 12 shortfalls experienced by the University of Hawaii college of 13 tropical agriculture and human resources cooperative extension 14 service by appropriating moneys for one full-time equivalent 15 ornamental position within the extension.

16 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$87,500 or so much 18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 to the 19 university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human 20 resources cooperative extension service for one full-time



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equivalent (1.0 FTE) ornamental plant extension agent in the
city and county of Honolulu.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of4 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

6 INTRODUCED BY: 2018-0456 HB SMA-1.doc JAN 1 9 2018

#### Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Appropriation; Cooperative Extension Service

#### Description:

Appropriates funds to the UH college of tropical agriculture and human resources cooperative extension service for one full-time ornamental plant extension agent.

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