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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONSERVATION OFFICER AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
TRAINING.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's limited and  
2 unique cultural and natural resources are vital to the State and  
3 its residents. However, these resources may not be receiving  
4 the protection required. According to a January 9, 2018, Hawaii  
5 News Now report entitled "DLNR wants a training academy to solve  
6 staffing shortage, increase enforcement," there is a shortage of  
7 department of land and natural resources' conservation and  
8 resources enforcement officers. This shortage is due to the  
9 fact that the "officers are armed and the job requires prior law  
10 enforcement experience," which severely limits the pool of  
11 applicants to current and former employees of the few law  
12 enforcement agencies in the State.

13       The legislature further finds that if the department of  
14 land and natural resources had its own training academy, it  
15 would no longer be limited to applicants with prior law  
16 enforcement experience. The department of land and natural



resources has collaborated with the University of Hawaii,  
William S. Richardson school of law to establish a training  
academy. The law school has already taken a first step in the  
process of establishing the training academy by securing a  
\$148,000 grant from the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation. However,  
additional moneys are needed before the training academy can be  
established.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
moneys to the department of land and natural resources for the  
establishment of a training academy for conservation and  
resources enforcement officers.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for  
the establishment of a training academy for conservation and  
resources enforcement officers.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.

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

INTRODUCED BY:



H.B. NO. 2503

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JAN 23 2018



**Report Title:**

DLNR; Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer Training;  
Training Academy

**Description:**

Appropriates moneys to the Department of Land and Natural  
Resources for the establishment of a training academy for  
conservation and resources enforcement officers.

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

