A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE WORLD WAR I CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that on April 1, 1917,
- 2 the American flagged merchant ship SS Aztec was sunk by the
- 3 Imperial German Navy in the Atlantic Ocean, killing several
- 4 Hawaii merchant mariners who were among Hawaii's first
- 5 casualties of World War I. Following this act of aggression, on
- 6 April 2, 1917, the President asked the United States Congress
- 7 for a declaration of war against the German Empire.
- 8 The legislature further finds that on April 6, 1917, the
- 9 United States of America declared war on the German Empire as an
- 10 independent power and did not officially join the allies. This
- 11 declaration launched the United States into World War I, or as
- 12 it was known at the time "the Great War". During this conflict,
- 13 approximately ten thousand men and women from the Territory of
- 14 Hawaii volunteered to serve in the Great War.
- The legislature further finds that on April 29, 2015, the
- 16 governor committed the State to establishing a World War I
- 17 centennial committee by November 11, 2015. The legislature

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- 1 believes that it is important to continue to honor the
- 2 sacrifices of the men and women who served in the Great War, and
- 3 to remember the suffering and loss of life of all who were
- 4 involved.
- 5 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to honor
- 6 the one-hundredth anniversary of World War I with programs,
 - 7 ceremonies, and activities, which commenced on April 2, 2017,
 - 8 and will end on November 11, 2018.
 - 9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general funds
- 10 of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as
- 11 may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the purpose of
- 12 commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of World War I with
- 13 programs, ceremonies, and activities.
- 14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the state
- 15 department of defense for the purpose of this Act.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

IAN 2 4 2018

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Report Title:

World War I Centennial Commemoration; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys for the commemoration of the centennial anniversary of World War I.

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