
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE INSTITUTE FOR ASTRONOMY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the institute for
2 astronomy has facilities on Mauna Kea and Haleakala and in Manoa
3 Valley. The majority of the institute's facilities and
4 equipment are located on Mauna Kea on Hawaii island, the most
5 productive astronomy site in the world. Conversely, the
6 majority of the institute's approximately two hundred employees
7 are located at the University of Hawaii at Manoa on Oahu.

8 The legislature finds that the University of Hawaii is one
9 of the most significant economic drivers in the State.
10 Additionally, it is the State's leading engine for economic
11 growth and diversification, stimulating the local economy with
12 jobs, research, and skilled workers.

13 The legislature finds that supporting and growing
14 industries on neighbor islands is a matter of statewide concern.

15 The legislature finds that the county of Hawaii lags behind
16 the rest of the State in many key economic indicators. The
17 Hawaii county unemployment rate is 3.2 per cent while it is 2.0



1 per cent statewide and 17.1 per cent of county residents between
2 the ages of sixteen and twenty-four are neither employed nor in
3 school as compared to 10.8 per cent statewide. Additionally,
4 the Hawaii county median household income is approximately
5 \$20,000 less than the statewide median and 19.5 per cent of
6 Hawaii county residents have incomes at or below the poverty
7 line compared to 10.6 per cent of residents statewide.

8 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 9 (1) Stimulate economic growth in Hawaii county by
10 transferring administrative authority, personnel, and
11 all facilities for the institute for astronomy
12 currently located at the University of Hawaii at Manoa
13 to the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
14 (2) Rename the University of Hawaii institute for
15 astronomy as the Paul H.I. Coleman astronomy center.

16 SECTION 2. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the
17 "Paul H.I. Coleman Act".

18 SECTION 3. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of
19 the University of Hawaii institute for astronomy located at the
20 University of Hawaii at Manoa as of July 1, 2020, are
21 transferred to the University of Hawaii at Hilo.



1 All employees who occupy civil service positions and whose
2 functions are transferred to the University of Hawaii at Hilo by
3 this Act shall retain their civil service status, whether
4 permanent or temporary. Employees shall be transferred without
5 loss of salary, seniority (except as prescribed by applicable
6 collective bargaining agreements), retention points, prior
7 service credit, any vacation and sick leave credits previously
8 earned, and other rights, benefits, and privileges, in
9 accordance with state personnel laws and this Act; provided that
10 the employees possess the minimum qualifications and public
11 employment requirements for the class or position to which
12 transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided further that
13 subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to applicable
14 civil service and compensation laws.

15 Any employee who, prior to this Act, is exempt from civil
16 service and is transferred as a consequence of this Act may
17 retain the employee's exempt status, but shall not be appointed
18 to a civil service position as a consequence of this Act. An
19 exempt employee who is transferred by this Act shall not suffer
20 any loss of prior service credit, vacation or sick leave credits
21 previously earned, or other employee benefits or privileges as a



1 consequence of this Act; provided that the employees possess
2 legal and public employment requirements for the position to
3 which transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided further
4 that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to
5 applicable employment and compensation laws. The director of
6 the University of Hawaii institute for astronomy may prescribe
7 the duties and qualifications of these employees and fix their
8 salaries without regard to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

9 SECTION 4. All appropriations, records, equipment,
10 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,
11 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,
12 acquired, or held by the University of Hawaii at Manoa relating
13 to the functions transferred to the University of Hawaii at Hilo
14 shall be transferred with the functions to which they relate.

15 SECTION 5. The director of the institute for astronomy
16 shall consult with the chancellor of the University of Hawaii at
17 Hilo to develop a strategic plan to:

- 18 (1) Promote interest in and awareness of the field of
19 astronomy and the activity of the institute for
20 astronomy in particular; and



1 (2) Increase employment and scholastic opportunities for
2 residents of the island of Hawaii, including
3 opportunities relating to astronomy facility
4 renovation and construction, administrative and
5 support services, and technical and scientific
6 activities.

7 SECTION 6. The University of Hawaii institute for
8 astronomy shall be renamed the "Paul H.I. Coleman Astronomy
9 Center".

10 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



Report Title:

Institute for Astronomy; University of Hawaii; Paul H.I. Coleman Act

Description:

Transfers administrative authority, personnel, and facilities for the University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy currently located at the University of Hawaii at Manoa to the University of Hawaii at Hilo. Renames the University of Hawaii Institute for Astronomy to the Paul H.I. Coleman Astronomy Center. Takes effect 7/1/2020. (SD1)

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