
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



1 resources has collaborated with the University of Hawaii,
2 William S. Richardson school of law to establish a training
3 academy. The law school has already taken a first step in the
4 process of establishing the training academy by securing a
5 \$148,000 grant from the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation. However,
6 additional moneys are needed before the training academy can be
7 established.

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

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,928 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
15 establishment of a training academy for conservation and
16 resources enforcement officers, including:

- 17 (1) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent
18 educational specialist position; and
19 (2) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent office
20 assistant position.



- 1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 2 land and natural resources for the purposes of this Act.
- 3 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.



Report Title:

DLNR; Conservation and Resources Enforcement Officer Training;
Training Academy; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the Department of Land and Natural Resources for the establishment of a training academy for conservation and resources enforcement officers, including two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent positions. (SD1)

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