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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE ARCHIVES.

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

PART I

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the state archives contains records and primary source documents relating to the rich culture and history of Hawaii and Native Hawaiians. As the State's largest memory institution, the state archives is open to the public and offers various services, including requests from other government agencies. While shifts in technology reduced the need for certain positions in the archives division, the mission and services of the state archives have not changed, and the need for staff has grown due to a backlog of transferred and acquired materials and an increase in public contact.

Therefore, the purpose of this part is to appropriate funds for additional staff positions in the state archives to assist with its mission and increase public access to historical documents and artifacts.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so



1 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for  
2 the establishment of staff positions in the Hawaii state  
3 archives as follows:

- 4 (1) One assistant Hawaiian language specialist position;
- 5 (2) Two processing and acquisitions archivist positions;
- 6 (3) One audio-visual archivist position;
- 7 (4) One objects curator position;
- 8 (5) One acquisitions position;
- 9 (6) One registration and public services position;
- 10 (7) Two assistant digital specialist positions; and
- 11 (8) One security guard position.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
13 accounting and general services for the purposes of this part.

14 PART II

15 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that the original state  
16 archives building, known as the Kanaina building, was built in  
17 1905 on the Iolani Palace grounds within the Hawaii capital  
18 historic district to house the public archives of Hawaii. After  
19 many years of collecting the most important records and  
20 artifacts from the Hawaiian kingdom through statehood, the state  
21 archives eventually outgrew the Kanaina building and in 1952, a



1 new building adjacent to the Kanaina building was constructed as  
2 the new home of the state archives and named after Kekauluohi.

3 The legislature further finds that there exists a need to  
4 promote citizen engagement in the documentary and tangible  
5 artifact heritage of the government, provide greater education  
6 of the history of Hawaii's governments and its people, and  
7 assist the people of Hawaii in connecting with their personal  
8 history, as well as the history of Hawaii, for the state  
9 archives to fulfill its role as the keeper of the public memory.

10 There also exists a need to have dedicated exhibition space  
11 to highlight the many historic records and artifacts preserved  
12 in the public archives that document the vibrant and diverse  
13 history of Hawaii, its public institutions, and its people.

14 An additional challenge is presented when aging,  
15 underrepresented, and marginalized segments of the community  
16 seek to donate important historical documents and artifacts to  
17 the state archives, but a lack of storage space in the current  
18 state archives building requires the state archivist to be very  
19 selective in accepting donations.



1       The purpose of this part is to provide funding for the  
2 construction of an additional building to address the current  
3 and future facilities needs of the state archives.

4       SECTION 4. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
5 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$                   or so much  
6 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
7 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2022-2023  
8 for the purpose of financing an additional building for the  
9 state archives to expand and create new spaces for collections  
10 processing, storage, administrative use, public research,  
11 exhibitions, listening, learning, and community engagement.

12       SECTION 5. The sum appropriated for the capital  
13 improvement project set forth in section 4 shall be expended by  
14 the department of accounting and general services for the  
15 purposes of this part.

16       SECTION 6. The appropriation made for the capital  
17 improvement project authorized by this part shall not lapse at  
18 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is  
19 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation  
20 unencumbered as of June 30, 2024, shall lapse as of that date.

21                   PART III



1       SECTION 7. The legislature finds that many of the state  
2 departments, offices, and agencies possess records and primary  
3 documents related to the culture and history of Hawaii and  
4 Native Hawaiians. Housing all of these precious records and  
5 documents in the state archives would ensure that these records  
6 and documents are properly archived and handled by trained  
7 specialists.

8       The purpose of this part is to:

9       (1) Require all departments, offices, and agencies of the  
10 State to conduct an inventory of all documents in  
11 their possession related to the culture and history of  
12 Hawaii and Native Hawaiians and submit a report on the  
13 inventory; and

14       (2) Require the state archives to develop a plan to  
15 acquire those documents and submit the plan to the  
16 legislature.

17       SECTION 8. (a) Each department of the State shall conduct  
18 an inventory of all records and primary source documents in its  
19 possession, including all records and primary source documents  
20 in the possession of any office or agency under its  
21 administrative control or supervision, that relate to the



1 culture and history of Hawaii and Native Hawaiians and submit a  
2 report on the inventory to the legislature and to the state  
3 archives no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the  
4 regular session of 2023.

5 (b) The state archives shall review the inventory reports  
6 submitted by each department and work with each department to  
7 prepare a transfer plan for all records and primary source  
8 documents related to the culture and history of Hawaii and  
9 Native Hawaiians in its possession, or in the possession of any  
10 office or agency under its administrative control or  
11 supervision, to the state archives. The state archives shall  
12 submit one consolidated transfer plan consisting of the transfer  
13 plans for all departments to the legislature, with any proposed  
14 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
15 the regular session of 2024.

16 PART IV

17 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2044.



**Report Title:**

State Archives; Staff Positions; Capital Improvement Project;  
Records Inventory; Transfer Plan; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to establish staff positions in the Hawaii state archives. Authorizes the issuance of general obligation bonds to finance the construction of an additional building for state archives. Requires all departments, offices, and agencies to conduct an inventory of all documents in their possession related to the culture and history of Hawaii and Native Hawaiians. Requires the state archives to develop a transfer plan to acquire those documents. Effective 7/1/2044. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

