
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUAHI BISHOP MUSEUM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Bernice Pauahi
2 Bishop Museum, officially designated as the State of Hawaii
3 Museum of Natural and Cultural History, is a distinguished
4 scientific, cultural, and educational institution for the State
5 of Hawaii, whose mission is to perpetuate Hawaii's natural and
6 cultural heritage. No other agency is tasked with the
7 responsibility of preserving and protecting Hawaii's invaluable
8 collections of primary source materials and more than one
9 hundred years of research across the Pacific region. The
10 legislature recognizes that the research and primary source
11 material stewarded at the museum is a global resource that is
12 unique, essential, and necessary to address the challenges we
13 face today, including massive biodiversity loss, ecosystem
14 collapse, and cultural resilience in the face of climate change.
15 The latter challenge is especially apparent, as sea level rise
16 is currently impacting Hawaii's coastal infrastructure and
17 resources.



1 The legislature finds that to fulfil its mandate, Bishop
2 Museum is in need of additional funds. Its operating budget is
3 currently approximately \$16,000,000. Forty-four per cent of the
4 budget supports the museum's core functions, while fifty-six per
5 cent supports education, public programs, communications,
6 community relations, groundskeeping, general management, and
7 other programs. Moneys for the museum's operating budget are
8 raised annually through federal, state, and local grants;
9 contracted services; admissions and earned income; memberships;
10 contributions; and endowments.

11 The legislature recognizes that Bishop Museum's core is the
12 basis for significant grants and is used to leverage
13 unrestricted funding. Every unrestricted dollar the museum
14 receives is used to bring in additional restricted funding,
15 including funding from federal agencies. However, the
16 legislature also recognizes that federal grants may be
17 competitive and restrictive.

18 The legislature finds that increasing the State's subsidy
19 to the museum, which currently accounts for approximately four
20 per cent of the museum's budget, would help to reliably support
21 the museum's core operations, including core staffing, mandatory



1 cooling and environmental security for core collections, and
2 core internet technology operations.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
4 funds to support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum.

5 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
8 supporting the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, officially
9 designated as the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural
10 History; provided that any funds appropriated pursuant to this
11 section shall be in addition to and shall not supplant any
12 portion of the base budget of the department of budget and
13 finance for the museum.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 budget and finance for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY: 
JAN 24 2022



H.B. NO. 2056

Report Title:

Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum.

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