
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BERNICE PAUHI 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 the
13 State faces today, including massive biodiversity loss,
14 ecosystem collapse, and cultural resilience in the face of
15 climate change. The latter challenge is especially apparent, as
16 sea level rise is currently impacting Hawaii's coastal
17 infrastructure and resources.



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

11 The legislature recognizes that Bishop Museum's core
12 operations are the basis for significant grants and are used to
13 leverage unrestricted funding. Every unrestricted dollar the
14 museum receives is used to bring in additional restricted
15 funding, 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 Bishop Museum, which currently accounts for approximately
20 four per cent of the museum's budget, would help to reliably
21 support the museum's core operations, including core staffing,



1 mandatory cooling and environmental security for core
2 collections, and 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
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to
8 support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, officially designated
9 as the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History;
10 provided that any funds appropriated pursuant to this section
11 shall be in addition to and shall not supplant any portion of
12 the base budget of the department of accounting and general
13 services for the museum; provided further that the amount
14 appropriated pursuant to this section shall be included in the
15 base budget for the department of accounting and general
16 services for the museum in future fiscal bienniums.

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
18 accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2044.



S.B. NO. 2731
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Report Title:

Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum.
Effective 7/1/2044. (HD1)

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