
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE STATE OF HAWAII MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY.

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 of the State
5 whose mission is to perpetuate Hawaii's natural and cultural
6 heritage. No other agency is tasked with the responsibility to
7 preserve and protect Hawaii's invaluable collections of primary
8 source material and over one hundred years of research across
9 the Pacific. The historic, fifteen-acre campus alone is the
10 repository of Hawaii's most important, extensive, and
11 irreplaceable treasures, from holotype specimens to royal family
12 heirlooms. These items provide residents and visitors with an
13 anchor to Hawaii's past, serve as a reminder to be present, and
14 provide a bridge to Hawaii's future.

15 The research and primary source material stewarded at
16 Bishop Museum is a global resource that is unique, essential,



1 and necessary to address the current urgent challenges faced by
2 the State and its people, including massive biodiversity loss,
3 ecosystem collapse, and climate change and resilience.

4 The legislature further finds that Bishop Museum continues
5 to raise public and private funds and collaborates with federal
6 agencies and organizations, including the United States
7 Department of Agriculture, United States Department of
8 Transportation, United States Fish and Wildlife Service,
9 National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the
10 Humanities, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and
11 Institute of Museum and Library Services; state agencies,
12 including the department of land and natural resources,
13 department of health, department of agriculture, department of
14 education, and University of Hawaii; and county agencies and
15 organizations, including the Honolulu mayor's office of culture
16 and the arts, city and county of Honolulu office of climate
17 change, sustainability and resiliency, and royal Hawaiian band,
18 to generate new research and programs serving a wide array of
19 needs and interests.

20 Bishop Museum provides regular access to collections and
21 scientific expertise locally, nationally, and internationally.



1 In addition, Bishop Museum provides vital educational programs
2 and resources to Hawai'i's students and teachers; actively
3 supports the cultivation of sustainable, cultural, and
4 responsible tourism in Hawaii; contains source knowledge
5 utilized by cultural practitioners from Hawaii and across the
6 Pacific; supports families; provides a neutral and safe place to
7 discuss island-wide issues; and strengthens the community.

8 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate federal funds to
9 sustain and support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, officially
10 designated as the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural
11 History.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the funds received
13 by the State of Hawaii from the federal Act, Public
14 Law , the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be
15 necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to sustain
17 and support the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, officially
18 designated as the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural
19 History.

20 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
21 of budget and finance for the purposes of this Act.



H.B. NO. 474

1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

2

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 20 2023



H.B. NO. 474

Report Title:

State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History; Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates federal funds to sustain and support the State of Hawaii Museum of Natural and Cultural History.

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

2023-0490 HB HMSO

