

JAN 25 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER TESTING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is only one
2 water quality testing laboratory on the island of Maui. The
3 laboratory is operated by the county of Maui and only serves the
4 county's agencies. The legislature also finds that all other
5 water quality testing must be sent to the island of Oahu and
6 takes up to twelve weeks to be returned. The legislature
7 believes that a water testing laboratory at the university of
8 Hawaii Maui college will not only allow for faster water quality
9 test results but will also provide opportunities for further
10 water quality research on the island of Maui.

11 The legislature notes that in 2022, the island of Maui
12 experienced a water quality crisis when wastewater leaked from
13 condominium injection wells into the island's coastline. The
14 island of Oahu experienced a similar crisis when fuel leaked
15 into the island's drinking water from the Red Hill underground
16 fuel storage facility. Given these and other water quality
17 crises, the legislature finds that water quality testing is



1 imperative to the health of the State's environment and
2 residents.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to fund and staff a
4 water testing laboratory at the university of Hawaii Maui
5 college.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$215,000 or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
9 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
10 2024-2025 to support water testing at the department of science
11 of the university of Hawaii Maui college. The moneys shall be
12 allocated as follows:

13 (1) \$100,000 annually for one full-time equivalent (1.0
14 FTE) laboratory coordinator having a doctoral degree
15 in water science;

16 (2) \$65,000 annually for one full-time equivalent (1.0
17 FTE) laboratory assistant having a bachelor's degree
18 in marine science or biology; and

19 (3) \$50,000 annually for laboratory supplies and testing
20 supplies.



S.B. NO. 1598

1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the university
2 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

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

4

INTRODUCED BY:  _____



S.B. NO. 1598

Report Title:

UH; Maui; Water Testing; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the department of science of the University of Hawaii Maui College to support water testing on the island of Maui, including supplies and the creation of 2.0 FTE positions.

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