
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NATIVE HAWAIIAN BENEFICIARIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that while basic waiting
2 lists of department of Hawaiian home lands homestead lease
3 applicants are available for download on the department's
4 website, the exact details of each applicant, including
5 information regarding whether the person has applied for
6 multiple leases, been denied a prior lease, or been skipped
7 over, are not readily accessible, even for department staff.
8 Beneficiary records of the department of Hawaiian home lands are
9 spread across multiple locations. If a beneficiary seeks to
10 determine the beneficiary's status, finding and gathering that
11 information can require weeks of work.

12 The legislature further finds that the compilation of
13 applicant information into a single interactive database would
14 increase efficiency within the department of Hawaiian home
15 lands. A digital database would provide clear, transparent,
16 current, and timely information to beneficiaries and the public.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
2 department of Hawaiian home lands to complete an interactive
3 digitized beneficiary assessment and implement an interactive
4 digital database.

5 SECTION 2. (a) The department of Hawaiian home lands,
6 with the assistance of the office of enterprise technology
7 services, shall complete an interactive digitized beneficiary
8 assessment and implement an interactive digital database
9 software program compiling its applicant, beneficiary, and
10 lessee records. The interactive digital database software
11 program shall contain relevant information on each individual's
12 homestead lease application status, number of applications,
13 address, number of denied leases, designated successors, history
14 of obtaining leases as an applicant or as a successor, and other
15 relevant information as determined by the Hawaiian homes
16 commission. The department shall complete implementation of the
17 interactive digital database within two years of the effective
18 date of this Act.

19 (b) The department of Hawaiian home lands shall submit a
20 report of its findings and recommendations, including any



1 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than July 1,
2 2025.

3 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
4 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
5 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
6 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,
7 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure
8 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
9 \$ or per cent. This current declaration takes
10 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal
11 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act
12 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
13 ceiling are that:

- 14 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
15 serve the public interest; and
- 16 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
17 addressed by this Act.

18 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
20 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
21 the department of Hawaiian home lands to complete an interactive



1 digitized beneficiary assessment and implement an interactive
2 digital database.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 Hawaiian home lands for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.



Report Title:

Native Hawaiian Caucus; DHHL; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; Beneficiary List; Database; Report; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands to complete an interactive digitized beneficiary assessment and report on the feasibility of creating an interactive digital database software program. Requires a report to the Legislature. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

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