

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that creating innovation  
2 in the State's agricultural industry will provide greater  
3 opportunities for local food production and security. The  
4 university of Hawaii college of tropical agriculture and human  
5 resources cooperative extension provides valuable resources  
6 connecting research and innovation to food sovereignty, food  
7 security, food production, and environmental and human  
8 resilience. Extension agents who work with the 4-H youth  
9 development support over two hundred thousand youths, or 15.1  
10 per cent of the population aged five through eighteen years.  
11 According to a national study of youth participating in youth  
12 organizations, individuals who participate in 4-H are more  
13 likely than their peers who participate in youth programs to  
14 attend college, study science, graduate, return home, and  
15 participate in service within their community as an adult.

16           The legislature further finds that despite the valuable  
17 work of extension agents, the number of 4-H youth development



1 faculty or permanent staff has decreased from fifteen full-time  
2 equivalent employees to 7.5 full-time equivalent employees since  
3 2000, creating additional challenges for the college of tropical  
4 agriculture and human resources to adequately provide staffing  
5 needs for youth who are facing unprecedented mental and physical  
6 health challenges. By increasing staffing with cooperative  
7 extension programs such as 4-H, the State can achieve its goal  
8 to develop a vibrant and skilled workforce while also providing  
9 Hawaii's keiki with a healthy community.

10 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
11 funds to the university of Hawaii for two full-time equivalent  
12 (2.0 FTE) extension agent positions within the college of  
13 tropical agriculture and human resources to support the 4-H  
14 youth development program in Kona, Hawaii county, and Lihue,  
15 Kauai county.

16 SECTION 2. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of  
17 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,  
18 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the  
19 appropriations contained in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023,  
20 and this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure  
21 ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by



1        \$                    or                    per cent. This current declaration takes  
2 into account general fund appropriations authorized for fiscal  
3 year 2024-2025 in Act 164, Regular Session of 2023, and this Act  
4 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure  
5 ceiling are that:

- 6           (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to  
7                    serve the public interest; and
- 8           (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs  
9                    addressed by this Act.

10        SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be  
13 expended as follows:

- 14           (1) \$100,000 for the establishment of one full-time  
15                    equivalent (1.0 FTE) extension agent at the assistant  
16                    or associate rank, for the program area of 4-H youth  
17                    development and intergenerational programming for  
18                    Kona, Hawaii county; and
- 19           (2) \$100,000 for the establishment of one full-time  
20                    equivalent (1.0 FTE) extension agent at the assistant  
21                    or associate rank, for the program area of 4-H youth



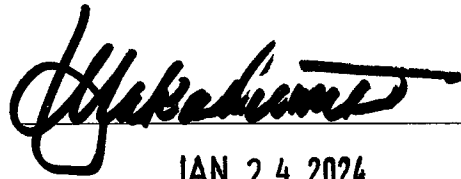
1            development and intergenerational programming for  
2            Lihue, Kauai county.

3            The sum appropriated shall be expended by the university of  
4 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

5            SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

6

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 24 2024



# H.B. NO. 2777

**Report Title:**

UH; CTAHR; Cooperative Extension; 4-H Youth Development;  
Positions; Expenditure Ceiling; Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources for the establishment of two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) extension agent positions to support the 4-H Youth Development Program and intergenerational programming in Kona, Hawaii County, and Lihue, Kauai County. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded.

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

