

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

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

PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Appropriations Act of 2025.

SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. Unless otherwise clear from the context, as used in this Act:

"Means of financing" or "MOF" means the source from which funds are appropriated or authorized to be expended for the programs and projects specified in this Act. All appropriations are followed by letter symbols. The letter symbols, where used, shall have the following meanings:

A General funds

T Trust funds

"Position ceiling" means the maximum number of permanent and temporary full-time equivalent positions authorized for a particular program during a specified period or periods, as denoted by an asterisk (*) for permanent full-time equivalent

1 positions and a pound (#) sign for temporary full-time
2 equivalent positions.

3 "Program ID" means the unique identifier for the specific
4 program and consists of the abbreviation for the office of
5 Hawaiian affairs (OHA) followed by the organization number for
6 the program.

7 **PART II. PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS**

8 SECTION 3. APPROPRIATIONS. The following sums, or so much
9 thereof as may be sufficient to accomplish the purposes and
10 programs designated herein, are hereby appropriated or
11 authorized from the means of financing specified to the office
12 of Hawaiian affairs for the fiscal biennium beginning
13 July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027. The total expenditures
14 and the number of positions in each fiscal year of the biennium
15 shall not exceed the sums and the numbers indicated for each
16 fiscal year, except as provided elsewhere in this Act, or as
17 provided by general law.



Hawaiian Affairs

1. OHA150 - OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES

0.00 *

0.00 *

0.00 #

0.00 #

OPERATING OHA

0 A

0 A

0.00 *

0.00 *

0.00 #

0.00 #

OHA

0 T

0 T

2. OHA160 - ADMINISTRATION

13.00 *

13.00 *

0.00 #

0.00 #

OPERATING OHA

1,258,454 A

1,296,208 A

0.00 *

00.00 *

0.00 #

0.00 #

OHA

0 T

0 T

3. OHA175 - BENEFICIARY ADVOCACY

0.00 *

0.00 *

0.00 #

0.00 #

OPERATING OHA

3,600,000 A

3,700,000 A

0.00 *

0.00 *

0.00 #

0.00 #

OHA

3,600,000 T

3,700,000 T



1 **PART III. PROGRAM PROVISIONS**

2 SECTION 4. Provided that the general fund appropriations
3 in part III of this Act shall be expended by the office of
4 Hawaiian affairs.

5 SECTION 5. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
6 beneficiary advocacy (OHA175), the sum of \$600,000 in general
7 funds and \$600,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
8 \$625,000 in general funds and \$625,000 in trust funds for fiscal
9 year 2026-2027 shall be expended for office of Hawaiian affairs
10 beneficiaries for affordable, quality housing and related
11 infrastructure.

12 SECTION 6. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
13 beneficiary advocacy (OHA175), the sum of \$515,000 in general
14 funds and \$515,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
15 the same sums for fiscal year 2026-2027 shall be expended to
16 provide for social services, including referral services and
17 case management, to at-risk office of Hawaiian affairs
18 beneficiaries to immediately address unexpected crises; provided
19 further that program activities shall be designed with an
20 overall objective to provide financial assistance to improve
21 stability during emergency situations.



1 SECTION 7. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
2 beneficiary advocacy (OHA175), the sum of \$715,000 in general
3 funds and \$715,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
4 \$740,000 in general funds and \$740,000 in trust funds for fiscal
5 year 2026-2027 shall be expended to provide for educational
6 improvement programs for Native Hawaiian students; provided
7 further that programs shall be designed to help Native Hawaiian
8 students prepare for post-secondary education and economic
9 stability pursuits to support families and communities.

10 SECTION 8. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
11 beneficiary advocacy (OHA175), the sum of \$700,000 in general
12 funds and \$700,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
13 the same sums for fiscal year 2026-2027 shall be expended to
14 provide for legal services and legal representation to office of
15 Hawaiian affairs beneficiaries for:

16 (1) The assertion and defense of quiet title actions;

17 (2) Assistance with ahupua'a and kuleana tenant rights,
18 including rights of access and rights to water;

19 (3) Land title assistance, including review of title and
20 genealogy;

21 (4) Preservation of traditional and customary practices;



1 (5) Protection of culturally significant places, including
2 iwi kūpuna protections;

3 (6) Preservation of Native Hawaiian land trust
4 entitlements;

5 (7) Home ownership retention strategies for Native
6 Hawaiians; and

7 (8) Family law-related matters, including adoption, foster
8 care, child welfare, incarcerated individuals,
9 guardianship, elder care, and similar matters.

10 SECTION 9. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
11 beneficiary advocacy (OHA175), the sum of \$600,000 in general
12 funds and \$600,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
13 \$625,000 in general funds and \$625,000 in trust funds for fiscal
14 year 2026-2027 shall be expended for protections of 'āina (land
15 and water), including climate change adaptation and mitigation
16 strategies and practices.

17 SECTION 10. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
18 beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$470,000 in general funds and
19 \$470,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$495,000
20 in general funds and \$495,000 in trust funds for fiscal year
21 2026-2027 shall be expended for cultivating resilient



1 communities through ahupua'a economics (regional economic
2 development) and workforce readiness.

3 **PART IV. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

4 SECTION 11. Provided that, whenever necessary, the board
5 of trustees of the office of Hawaiian affairs or the board's
6 designee may transfer sufficient funds and positions between
7 programs for operating purposes; provided further that these
8 transfers shall be consistent with legislative intent; provided
9 further that the office of Hawaiian affairs shall submit a
10 report to the legislature of all uses of this authority for the
11 previous twelve-month period from December 1 to November 30, no
12 later than twenty days prior to the regular sessions of 2026
13 and 2027.

14 SECTION 12. If any portion of this Act or its application
15 to any person, entity, or circumstance is held to be invalid for
16 any reason, the legislature declares that the remainder of the
17 Act and each and every other provision thereof shall not be
18 affected thereby. If any portion of a specific appropriation is
19 held to be invalid for any reason, the remaining portion shall
20 be expended to fulfill the objective of the appropriation to the
21 extent possible.



1 SECTION 13. In the event manifest clerical, typographical,
2 or other mechanical errors are found in this Act, the board of
3 trustees of the office of Hawaiian affairs is authorized to
4 correct these errors. All changes made pursuant to this section
5 shall be reported to the legislature at its next session.

6 SECTION 14. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



S.B. NO. 269 S.D. 1

Report Title:

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Package; Budget

Description:

Appropriates moneys to fund the operating expenses of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the fiscal biennium beginning on 7/1/2025, and ending on 6/30/2027. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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