

ACT 254

S. B. 1024.

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Establishment of a State Program of Historic Preservation and Restoration.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Purpose. There is increasing recognition by federal, state, and local governments and by private groups of the educational and cultural value in preserving significant portions of our historic and cultural past. There are numerous public and private agencies currently engaged in historic research, preservation, and restoration in the State of Hawaii, whose interests and functions often overlap. In order to establish a coordinated program of preservation and restoration of historic areas, buildings, structures, objects and sites, and bring together the efforts of public and private agencies into one concerted program, the legislature of the State of Hawaii declares it to be a public policy that:

(a) historic areas, historic buildings, historic structures, and historic sites which form significant parts of Hawaii's history shall be preserved for public study, use, and enjoyment;

(b) encouragement and assistance be given to public and private agencies engaged in historic preservation and restoration in the way of tax incentives, technical advice, or state grants in order to recognize the vital role such agencies have played in retaining these cultural assets and to assist these agencies in the part they will play in the future;

(c) the knowledge and interest of the numerous public and private agencies engaged in the field of historic preservation be coordinated in developing a statewide program.

SECTION 2. The department of land and natural resources in cooperation with the department of planning and economic development, is authorized to establish a comprehensive program for historic preservation, restoration and presentation, which shall include but not be limited to the following:

(a) plans to acquire, restore, and preserve historic areas, buildings, and sites significant to Hawaii's past;

(b) establish and maintain a register of such areas;

(c) establish regulations on the uses of such areas;

(d) develop, in cooperation with the department of planning and economic development, a statewide survey of historic areas, buildings, and sites

with a phased preservation and restoration development plan and accompanying budget and land use recommendations;

(e) provide for matching grants-in-aid to political subdivisions and private agencies for projects which will fulfill the purposes of this Act;

(f) seek assistance for the state historic preservation and restoration program by applying for technical assistance and funds from the federal government and private agencies and foundations for the purposes of this Act;

(g) employ sufficient professional and technical staff for the purposes of this Act without regard to the provisions of chapters 3, 4, and 5;

(h) advise and cooperate with other public and private agencies engaged in similar work;

(i) submit an annual report and budget to the governor and the legislature by February 1 of each year, with recommendations for programs of historic preservation and restoration.

SECTION 3. The department of land and natural resources is authorized to receive gifts and grants from public and private sources to be used for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. All state historic areas and buildings presently under the department of accounting and general services for maintenance purposes shall be transferred to the department of land and natural resources July 1, 1968. All state projects and programs planned or currently in progress relating to historic preservation and restoration shall come under the authority of the department of land and natural resources. The department of land and natural resources and the department of accounting and general services shall submit a joint report to the Fourth Legislature by February 1, 1968, on the historic areas and buildings being transferred and the personnel necessary to accomplish the transfer.

SECTION 5. Section 44-21 of the Revised Laws of Hawaii 1955 is repealed.

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$25,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 6, 1967.)