

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Establishment of a State Information and Youth Affairs Office.

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

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this Act is to provide a centralized, statewide information service, through which the public's information needs can be most effectively served and by which state agencies can coordinate and maintain communication with the community, and to provide a statewide youth affairs office which would serve as a major communication link between youth, the community, and government.

SECTION 2. Means. (a) The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended to provide for the establishment of a centralized state information service in the office of the governor, consisting of a central office at the capital and satellite offices located in each county, and including as a special section in the office of the governor a youth affairs office, with representatives from each county.

(b) The functions of the state information service shall include the following:

- (1) Communication to the public of information concerning the functions of government, the services it renders through its departments and agencies, and the status of various important programs and projects which affect the quality of life of the community.
- (2) Making direct response to queries, whether by telephone, correspondence, or meetings, from persons desiring information or assistance and assisting in channeling requests, queries, and recommendations from the public to appropriate public offices and referring non-governmental related matters to appropriate private offices, and providing methods to encourage timely and adequate response to such queries.
- (3) Assessing the effectiveness of existing informational services administered by various administration offices and seeking the improvement of these services by providing feedback, coordinating information programs and recommending innovative communication techniques.
- (4) Seeking and implementing more effective means of publicizing public notices and other announcements which should receive timely and wide dissemination.
- (5) Identification of specific community informational needs and provision of special information services to meet such needs.
- (6) Devising information and exchange programs for elective and appointive government officers to help increase their awareness and understanding of the community and its needs.
- (7) Close support of the work of the youth affairs office.

(c) The functions of the youth affairs office shall include the following:

- (1) Provision of information concerning the functions of government,

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- the services it renders to young adults, and assisting in the implementation of programs which particularly affect young adults.
- (2) Identification and usage of existing channels of communications with young adults, and formulation of new and more effective channels of communications between youth, government, and the community.
 - (3) Receiving, evaluating, and recommending to the appropriate state agency significant recommendations from young adults of the community particularly on those matters which would improve the quality of life of young adults.
 - (4) Establishment of intern programs within the state government to acquaint young adults, particularly students, with the functions, responsibilities, and complexities of government.
 - (5) Based upon research and experience, further development of the concept and objectives of the youth affairs office and proposing changes in its functions and organization as appropriate.

SECTION 3. Appropriation. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State the sum of \$112,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the fiscal biennium 1971-1973, for the purpose of this Act.

SECTION 4. Any law or Act to the contrary notwithstanding, the governor may transfer personnel and appropriations made for the fiscal biennium 1971-1973 to any state department or agency, to the office of the governor to carry out the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon July 1, 1971.

(Approved May 25, 1971.)