

ACT 168

S. B. NO. 975

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Establishment of a Program of Equal Educational Opportunity and a Coordinating Office of Educational Services for the Disadvantaged.

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

SECTION 1. Findings and Purpose. The legislature finds that: (1) over the last decade, a number of economic, social, and political factors have combined to bring to the attention of the general public, the conditions of economic and social disparities that exist; (2) one of the major conditions of these disparities has been the handicapping of certain groups by cutting them off from the educational mainstream; (3) the crippling effects of limited educational opportunities for these groups become severer in view of the explosive expansion of knowledge and the technological revolution which require total and meaningful integration into the mainstream of education in order to insure a promising future; (4) the fact that certain groups are being

deprived of educational opportunities is contrary to the basic purpose of a public system of education; and (5) faced with the realization that there is, in fact, unequal educational opportunities, the federal government has been funding programs for the disadvantaged promoting research and experimentation.

The legislature finds further that the University of Hawaii has been perpetuating the conditions of unequal educational opportunities by failing to develop a program of equal opportunity as an integral part of the university program and by neglecting to coordinate programs that do exist in order that the needs of the disadvantaged are best met by the level of services and programs currently available.

The purpose of this Act is to provide for the development and establishment of a program of equal educational opportunity as a major university program and to establish a coordinating office of educational services in order to provide equal educational opportunity for all, the basic purpose for the existence of a public university.

SECTION 2. Program of equal educational opportunity; established. There is established a program of equal educational opportunity as an integral and major program of the University of Hawaii. The university shall provide monetary and manpower resources toward developing and planning an equal educational opportunity program.

SECTION 3. Coordinating office of educational services for the disadvantaged; created. There is created a coordinating office of educational services for the disadvantaged at the University of Hawaii which shall have the responsibility and authority to coordinate, develop, and evaluate programs of equal educational opportunity.

SECTION 4. Appropriation. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$60,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for the 1971-73 biennium, for the purposes of establishing a program of equal educational opportunity and creating a coordinating office of educational services for the disadvantaged.

SECTION 5. Annual budget report. The University of Hawaii shall report to the legislature, Regular Session of 1972, the budget request of the equal educational opportunity program and the coordinating office of educational services for the disadvantaged for the next following fiscal year.

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1971.

(Approved May 24, 1971.)