

ACT 175

S.B. NO. 2978

A Bill for an Act Establishing a Commission to Celebrate the 500th Anniversary of Christopher Columbus' Arrival in the New World and Making an Appropriation Therefor.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that October 12, 1992, marks the five hundredth anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the new world. Commissions have been established in thirty-five states and over thirty countries to observe this event and to examine the legacy of Columbus's voyages.

Hawaii can make important contributions to these educational and commemorative events in 1992-1993. Because of its history and multicultural society, this State can bring unique insights to the ideas of exploration, cultural encounter, exchange, and adaptation.

Seafaring, exploration, and settlement by Asian and Pacific peoples were also significant and preceded the European explorations exemplified by Columbus. Their exploration and settlement of Southeast Asia and the vast Pacific, centuries before Columbus, attest to their skill, knowledge, and spirit of discovery. Hawaii's location and leadership in Pacific affairs can broaden "old and new world" perspectives to international perspectives—east, west, and Pacific—that are critical to America's well-being today.

SECTION 2. In accordance with Section 9 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 1990-1991 to be exceeded by \$1, or 0.0000 per cent. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the appropriations made in this Act are necessary to serve the public interest and to meet the need provided for by this Act.

SECTION 3. There is established a temporary commission to be known as the commission on the Columbian quinqucentennial observance. The commission shall be placed within the office of the governor for administrative purposes commencing July 1, 1990, and ceasing operation after June 30, 1993.

SECTION 4. The commission shall consist of fifteen members to be appointed by the governor without regard to section 26-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Four of the members shall be representatives from the four counties, and the remaining members shall represent government, labor, business, and the community-at-large. The membership shall be ethnically diverse, and to maintain a strong educational focus, representatives from the department of education, the University of Hawaii, and other educational and cultural institutions shall be included. The governor shall designate the chair of the commission from among the appointed members. The members shall not receive compensation for their services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses, including travel expenses, incurred in the performance of their duties under this Act.

SECTION 5. The commission shall prepare an overall program to observe the five hundredth anniversary of the arrival of Christopher Columbus to the new world and to promote community understanding of cultural, political, scientific, and other transformations resulting from exploration, encounter, and exchange in various parts of the world. The commission shall develop, plan, and coordinate the various program activities that are to be scheduled throughout the year of the observance and shall encourage the participation of all segments of the community. In planning and encouraging program activities, the commission shall seek to harmonize and balance events of a ceremonial and celebratory nature with those relating to scholarship and education. The commission shall consider any related plans and programs developed by other nations, states, and interested private and public organizations or agencies from whose members the commission may designate special committees to plan, develop, and coordinate specific projects or activities.

The commission shall submit to the governor a comprehensive report for the five hundredth anniversary observance which shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) The production, publication, and distribution of books, films, and other educational materials;
- (2) Conferences, convocations, lectures, and seminars; and
- (3) Interpretive exhibits, ceremonies, theatrical productions, and other special events commemorating the anniversary.

SECTION 6. There is created the Columbian quincentennial observance trust fund which shall consist of payments made to the trust fund as provided in this Act or through other legislative appropriations. All moneys received by the commission shall be deposited by the state director of finance into the trust fund and expended by the commission for the purposes of this Act. Disbursement of such moneys shall be by state warrants issued in accordance with applicable laws and rules and shall be based on vouchers signed by the chair of the commission.

The commission may seek grants from public and private sources and may accept donations to finance the projects, programs, and activities of the five hundredth anniversary observance.

All property acquired by the commission shall be deposited for preservation in the state library system, museums, and public archives or shall otherwise be disposed of as directed by the commission.

SECTION 7. At the end of its term, the commission shall submit to the governor a final report of all its activities, including an accounting of all moneys received and disbursed.

SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1990-1991, to carry out the purposes of this Act.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the office of the governor for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1990.

(Approved June 19, 1990.)