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H.B. NO. 3660

A Bill for an Act Relating to a Biological Survey.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that alien species of plants and animals are increasing at an uncontrollable rate and become pests before they can be eradicated, controlled, or even identified.

In order to gain knowledge of these critical developments, the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum has expended over \$1,000,000, in a program to integrate and expand existing information on plant and animal collections into a computerized, interactive database. So far, 11,500 native and alien species have been estimated to occur in Hawaii.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a biological survey at the State of Hawaii museum of natural and cultural history, to conduct an ongoing natural

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history inventory of the archipelago to locate, identify, evaluate, and maintain the reference collections of all species of flora and fauna within the State.

SECTION 2. Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§6E-Biological survey; designation. A Hawaii biological survey is established and designated as a program of the State of Hawaii museum of natural and cultural history. The survey shall consist of an ongoing natural history inventory of the Hawaiian archipelago to locate, identify, evaluate, and maintain the reference collections of all native and non-native species of flora and fauna within the State for a wide range of uses. The survey shall coordinate with and complement the work of the Hawaii heritage program, established by chapter 195, which manages data on rare native plants, animals, and natural communities throughout the State. To expand the use, control, and knowledge of biological species, the survey shall also be conducted in coordination with the existing databases of the department of agriculture, the department of land and natural resources, the University of Hawaii, and other appropriate organizations."

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.1

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. (Approved May 27, 1992.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.