ACT 55

A Bill for an Act Making An Appropriation for the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

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

SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of the constitution of the State of Hawaii.

SECTION 2. Act 156, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998, established the Hawaii tourism authority and the tourism special fund, provided for a percentage of the transient accommodations tax to be deposited into the tourism special fund beginning on January 1, 1999, and appropriated \$500,000 for tourism research for the fiscal year 1998-1999. Deposits to the tourism special fund from January 1 through June 30, 1999 are projected to total \$31,000,000.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the tourism special fund the sum of \$31,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary or available for the fiscal year 1998-1999, to be expended by the Hawaii tourism authority for the purposes set forth in Act 156, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998; provided that the Hawaii tourism authority shall reimburse the general fund for amounts expended by the authority from the general fund since January 1, 1999, for the authority's operations.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 28, 1999.)