

ACT 129

H.B. NO. 2100

A Bill for an Act Relating to Bees.

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

SECTION 1. The University of Hawaii at Hilo has been offering an introductory course on beekeeping for more than twenty years. The course provides students with hands-on experience with honey bee hives at the university's one hundred ten-acre farm located in Panaewa, Hawaii. The university also offers an advanced beekeeping course that allows students to build upon their acquired skills with independent projects that include research and creative activities.

Ongoing research at the Panaewa farm has been directed at developing more efficient methods for controlling the small hive beetle, which has become a major pest of honey bee hives on the island of Hawaii. There has reportedly

been significant hive loss attributed to the small hive beetle. Loss of bee hives is a threat to the agricultural economy on all islands because bees are necessary to pollinate many crops. Accordingly, there is a need for the University of Hawaii system to further research bee hives statewide.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the University of Hawaii system for bee hive research statewide; provided that in expending the appropriated funds, the University of Hawaii system shall consult with the department of agriculture.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$30,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for statewide bee hive research conducted through the University of Hawaii system, including the purchase of hives and related equipment. The appropriated moneys shall be allocated as follows:

- (1) \$5,000 for Hawaii county;
- (2) \$5,000 for Maui county;
- (3) \$5,000 for the city and county of Honolulu;
- (4) \$5,000 for Kauai county; and
- (5) \$10,000 to the University of Hawaii at Hilo, College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resource Management.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act; provided that the University of Hawaii shall consult with the department of agriculture in the expenditure of the appropriation.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

(Approved June 18, 2012.)