

ACT 215

H.B. NO. 1424

A Bill for an Act Relating to Appropriations.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that for fiscal year 2025, the executive branch had requested about \$3,600,000,000 in funding for more than forty-seven thousand permanent and three thousand six hundred temporary authorized positions. The amount requested accounted for more than twenty per cent of all authorized funds in fiscal year 2025.

The legislature further finds that there has been a high vacancy rate in public employment positions and funds appropriated for these positions are either transferred or used for purposes that are not consistent with the purpose for which the appropriation was authorized. A vacancy report from December 2024 from the department of human resources development identified four thousand eighty-five vacancies, or about twenty-four per cent of civil service positions, in the State.

The purpose of this Act is to increase legislative oversight to ensure that funds appropriated by the legislature are used for their intended purpose by requiring an annual report to the legislature on the transfer of funds originally appropriated for positions but used for operating expenses, and vice versa.

SECTION 2. Chapter 37, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§37- Transfers of funds; positions; operating expenses; report. The director of finance shall submit an annual report to the legislature no later than sixty days after the end of the fiscal year that shall, at minimum:

- (1) Identify all positions funded by appropriations intended for operating expenses including but not limited to equipment and motor vehicles;
- (2) Identify operating expenses funded by appropriations intended for filling positions during the preceding fiscal year; and
- (3) Include, if applicable, a list of departments that failed to provide information necessary to complete the report.”

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.¹

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

(Approved June 25, 2025.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.