
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BUDGET OF THE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act shall be known and may
2 be cited as the Office of Hawaiian Affairs Appropriations Act of
3 2025.

4 SECTION 2. This Act amends Act 71, Session Laws of Hawai'i
5 2023, and other appropriations and authorizations effective
6 during fiscal biennium 2023-2025.

7 SECTION 3. Part I of Act 71, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, is
8 amended by amending section 2 to read as follows:

9 "SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS. Unless otherwise clear from the
10 context, as used in this Act:

11 "Means of financing" or "MOF" means the source from which
12 funds are appropriated or authorized to be expended for the
13 programs and projects specified in this Act. All
14 appropriations are followed by letter symbols. Such letter
15 symbols, where used, shall have the following meanings:

16 A general funds

17 T trust funds

1 "Position ceiling" means the maximum number of permanent
2 and temporary full-time equivalent positions authorized for a
3 particular program during a specified period or periods, as
4 denoted by an asterisk for permanent full-time positions and
5 a pound sign for temporary full-time equivalent positions.

6 "Program ID" means the unique identifier for the specific
7 program and consists of the abbreviation for the Office of
8 Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) followed by the organization number for
9 the program."

10 SECTION 4. Part II of Act 71, Session Laws of Hawai'i
11 2023, is amended to read as follows:

12 "SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawai'i the sum of \$3,600,000 or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
15 \$3,700,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
16 year 2026-2027 for beneficiary advocacy. The sums appropriated
17 shall be expended by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the
18 purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the public land
20 trust fund the sum of \$3,600,000 or so much thereof as may be
21 necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$3,700,000 or so
22 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
23 beneficiary advocacy. The sums appropriated shall be expended

1 by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the purposes of this
2 Act.

PROGRAM APPROPRIATIONS

				<u>APPROPRIATIONS</u>			
ITEM NO.	PROG. ID	PROGRAM	EXPENDING AGENCY	FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026	M O F	FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027	M O F
1		Hawaiian Affairs					
2		1. OHA150 - OFFICE OF THE TRUSTEES					
3				0.47*		0.00*	
4				<u>0.00*</u>			
5				0.00#		0.00#	
6		OPERATING	OHA		A		A
7				4.53*		0.00*	
8				<u>0.00*</u>			
9				0.00#		0.00#	
10			OHA		T		T
11		2. OHA160 - ADMINISTRATION					
12				5.03*		<u>13.00*</u>	
13				<u>13.00*</u>			
14				0.00#		0.00#	
15		OPERATING	OHA	<u>1,258,454A</u>		<u>1,296,208A</u>	
16				31.97*		0.00*	
17				<u>0.00*</u>			
18				0.00#		0.00#	
19			OHA		T		T
20		3. OHA175 - BENEFICIARY ADVOCACY					
21				1.47*		0.00*	
22				<u>0.00*</u>			
23				0.00#		0.00#	
24		OPERATING	OHA	3,000,000A		<u>3,700,000A</u>	
25				<u>3,600,000A</u>			
26				18.53*		0.00*	
27				<u>0.00*</u>			
28				0.00#		0.00#	
29			OHA	3,000,000T		<u>3,700,000T</u>	
30				<u>3,600,000T</u>			

1 SECTION 5. Part III of Act 71, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2023,
2 is amended as follows:

3 "SECTION 4. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
4 beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$600,000 in general funds
5 and \$600,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$625,000
6 in general funds and \$625,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2026-2027
7 shall be expended for Office of Hawaiian Affairs beneficiaries for
8 affordable, quality housing and related infrastructure.

9 SECTION 5. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
10 beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$515,000 in general funds
11 and \$515,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the same
12 sums for fiscal year 2026-2027 shall be expended to provide for
13 social services, including referral services and case management, to
14 at-risk Office of Hawaiian Affairs beneficiaries to immediately
15 address unexpected crises; provided further that program activities
16 shall be designed with an overall objective to provide financial
17 assistance to improve stability during emergency situations.

18 SECTION 6. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
19 Beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$715,000 in general funds and
20 \$715,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$740,000 in
21 general funds and \$740,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2026
22 -2027 shall be expended to provide for educational improvement

1 programs for Native Hawaiian students; provided further that program
2 shall be designed to help Native Hawaiian students prepare for post
3 -secondary education and economic stability pursuits to support
4 families and communities.

5 SECTION 7. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
6 beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$700,000 in general funds
7 and \$700,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the same
8 sums for fiscal year 2026-2027 shall be expended to provide for
9 legal services and legal representation to Office of Hawaiian Affairs
10 beneficiaries for:

- 11 (1) The assertion and defense of quiet title actions;
- 12 (2) Assistance with ahupua'a and kuleana tenant rights,
13 including rights of access and rights to water;
- 14 (3) Land title assistance, including review of title and
15 genealogy;
- 16 (4) Preservation of traditional and customary practices;
- 17 (5) Protection of culturally significant places, including iwi
18 kūpuna protections;
- 19 (6) Preservation of Native Hawaiian land trust entitlements;
- 20 (7) Home ownership retention strategies for Native Hawaiians;
- 21 And
- 22 (8) Family law-related matters, including adoption, foster
23 care, child welfare, incarcerated individuals, guardianship,

1 elder care, and similar matters.

2 SECTION 8. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
3 beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$600,000 in general funds
4 and \$600,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$625,000
5 in general funds and \$625,000 in trust funds for fiscal year
6 2026-2027 shall be expended for protections of 'āina (land and
7 water) , including climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies
8 and practices.

9 SECTION 9. Provided that of the funds appropriated for
10 beneficiary advocacy, the sum of \$470,000 in general funds
11 and \$470,000 in trust funds for fiscal year 2025-2026 and \$495,000
12 in general funds and \$495,000 in trust funds for fiscal year
13 2026-2027 shall be expended for cultivating resilient communities
14 through ahupua'a economics (regional economic development), and
15 workforce readiness."

16 SECTION 6. Part IV of Act 71, Session Laws of Hawai'i
17 2023, is amended to read as follows:

18 "SECTION 10. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
19 the Hawai'i State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
20 Hawai'i Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
21 appropriations contained in __.B. No. ___H.D. 1, S.D. 1, C.D. 1, will
22 cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year
23 202_-202_ to be exceeded by \$_____ or __ per cent. In addition,

1 the appropriations contained in this Act will cause the general fund
2 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 202_-202_ to be further exceeded
3 by \$_____ or ____ per cent. The combined total amount of
4 general fund appropriations contained in only these two Acts will
5 cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year
6 202_-202_ to be exceeded by \$_____ or ____ per cent. The
7 reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

8 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to serve the
9 public interest; and

10 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs addressed
11 by this Act.”

12 SECTION 7. Provided that, whenever necessary, the Board of
13 Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs or the Board's designee
14 may transfer sufficient funds and positions between programs for
15 operating purposes; provided further that these transfers shall be
16 consistent with legislative intent; provided further that the Office
17 of Hawaiian Affairs shall submit a report to the legislature of all
18 uses of this authority for the previous twelve-month period from
19 December 1 to November 30, no later than twenty days prior to the
20 regular sessions of 2026 and 2027.

21 SECTION 8. If any portion of this Act or its application to
22 any person, entity, or circumstance is held to be invalid for any
23 reason, the legislature declares that the remainder of the Act and

1 each and every other provision thereof shall not be affected
2 thereby. If any portion of a specific appropriation is held to be
3 invalid for any reason, the remaining portion shall be expended to
4 fulfill the objective of such appropriation to the extent possible.

5 SECTION 9. In the event manifest clerical, typographical, or
6 other mechanical errors are found in this Act, the Board of Trustees
7 of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is authorized to correct these
8 errors. All changes made pursuant to this section shall be reported
9 to the legislature at its next session.

10 SECTION 10. Nothing in this Act shall affect the validity or
11 continuing effectiveness of any provisions of Act 71, Session Laws of
12 Hawai'i 2023, not repealed or modified by this Act.

13 SECTION 11. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Report Title:

Office of Hawaiian Affairs Package; Budget; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Appropriates moneys to fund the operating expenses of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs for the fiscal biennium beginning on 7/1/2025 and ending on 6/30/2027.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.