A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR IRRIGATION SYSTEMS.

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

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PART I

SECTION 1. In October 2006, an earthquake devastated the
island of Hawaii, causing major infrastructure damage to the
intakes leading to the lower Hamakua irrigation ditch system and
Waimea irrigation ditch system.

The lower Hamakua irrigation ditch system intakes were 6 7 closed and little or no water was coming into the system. The Waimea irrigation ditch system was also closed, but measures 8 9 were put in place to allow water to be pumped from a well into 10 the reservoir. While such measures worked fairly well, they were only temporary fixes, and farmers in these areas remain 11 concerned about the reliability and availability of irrigation 12 13 water. Funding is urgently needed to return both systems to 14 full capacity.

15 A reliable irrigation system is the lifeline of Hawaii's 16 agricultural industry. The purpose of this part is to 17 appropriate funds for improvements to both the lower Hamakua

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irrigation ditch system and Waimea irrigation ditch system on
 the island of Hawaii.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,500,000, or so 5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, for 6 the repair and maintenance of the lower Hamakua irrigation ditch 7 system on the island of Hawaii and the Waimea irrigation ditch 8 system on the island of Hawaii.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of10 agriculture for the purposes of this part.

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PART II

12 To provide relief in light of the damage done SECTION 3. to irrigation systems on the island of Hawaii after the 2006 13 14 earthquake, the department of agriculture has been using funds from the irrigation system revolving fund to pay for expenses, 15 including the costs of hiring personnel for earthquake damage 16 assessment, contractors, pumping, and materials, supplies, and 17 18 Therefore, additional moneys are needed to reimburse equipment. 19 the irrigation system revolving fund.

20 The purpose of this part is to appropriate general funds to
21 be deposited into the department of agriculture's irrigation
22 system revolving fund to reimburse the fund.

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SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$150,000, or so much
 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, to be
 deposited into the irrigation system revolving fund to reimburse
 the fund for expenses incurred due to damage done to irrigation
 systems on the island of Hawaii in the aftermath of the 2006
 earthquake.

PART III

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



Report Title: Island of Hawaii; Irrigation Systems; Appropriation

Description:

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Appropriates funds for the repair and maintenance of the lower Hamakua irrigation ditch system and Waimea irrigation ditch system on the island of Hawaii. Appropriates funds to the irrigation system revolving fund to reimburse the fund for expenses incurred due to damage done to irrigation systems on the island of Hawaii in the aftermath of the 2006 earthquake. (SD1)