STAND. COM. REP. NO.

495

Honolulu, Hawaii **FEB 12**, 2025 RE: H.B. No. 1407 H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura Speaker, House of Representatives Thirty-Third State Legislature Regular Session of 2025 State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Economic Development & Technology, to which was referred H.B. No. 1407 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish a Chamber of Commerce Grant Program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; one member of the Kaua'i County Council; Hawaii Food Industry Association; NFIB, Hawaii Chapter; Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawai'i Farm Bureau; Charter Communications; Kapolei Chamber of Commerce; Japanese Chamber of Commerce & Industry of Hawaii; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and five individuals.

Your Committee finds that there is a need to bolster business innovation and economic development in the State. Your Committee further finds chambers of commerce, with their vast networks of small businesses, are well positioned to support new entrepreneurs in the State. Your Committee believes that this measure will help encourage economic development in the State by establishing the



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Chamber of Commerce Grant Program to provide qualifying chambers of commerce with grants for developing and cultivating entrepreneurs, with a focus on mentoring, workshops, and skill development.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- Clarifying that the program is a competitive grant program and that certain standards and conditions under chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, do not apply to funds received under the program;
- (2) Requiring applicants to provide proof that they have raised at least one-fifth of the grant amount requested, to be used for the same purposes as a grant awarded through the program and, upon receipt of grant funds, provide a \$1 match for every \$5 of grant funds received;
- (3) Adding an appropriation for an unspecified sum;
- (4) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development & Technology that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1407, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1407, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-third Legislature

H5CR 495

Record of Votes of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology

| Bi | I/Resolution No.: HB 1407 | | FELD, FI | N Date | 2/1/ | 2025 |
|--|--|------|----------|-----------------------------|--|---------|
| | The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure. | | | | | |
| Th | The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit) | | | | | |
| | ECD Memb | Ders | Ayes | Ayes (WR) | Nays | Excused |
| 1. | ILAGAN, Greggor (C) | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| 2. | HUSSEY, Ikaika (VC) | | | 4. 4.1 4.221, 5.112. | | |
| 3. | HOLT, Daniel | | | | | |
| | HOLT, Dainer | | | | e de la constante de la consta | |
| 4. | TAM, Adrian K. | | | | | |
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| 5. | TEMPLO, Shirley Ann | · · | | | | |
| udha gai | | | | | | |
| 6. | TODD, Chris | | | | The second second second | |
| 7. | MATSUMOTO, Laurei | | | | | |
| /. | MAISOMOTO, Laurei | u | | | | |
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| | TOTAL (7) | | 6 | <u> </u> | - | |
| The | recommendation is: If Adopted If joint referral, | | | | | |
| Vice Chair's or designee's signature: | | | | | | |
| Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Vellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO | | | | | | |