
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SMALL BUSINESS LOANS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the COVID-19
2 pandemic, supply chain issues, and inflation have hurt the
3 State's economy and local businesses on every level, including
4 the start-up industry. Despite this, many small businesses and
5 entrepreneurs are ready to take the leap into starting up a
6 business but lack the resources to do so, as access to capital
7 is one of the biggest barriers for start-ups.

8 The legislature further finds that new businesses and young
9 companies under five years of age create the most new jobs, on
10 net, in the United States. While the State offers a variety of
11 financial assistance to start-up businesses in Hawaii, most
12 assistance is to help existing businesses expand and scale up,
13 rather than to help successfully launch new businesses.

14 The legislature believes that providing support to local
15 small businesses and entrepreneurs looking to begin a start-up
16 could lead to the creation of more jobs in the State.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate
2 moneys to the department of business, economic development, and
3 tourism for the contracting of services for start-up business
4 financing and support, thereby encouraging entrepreneurship,
5 economic diversification, and resilience.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
10 year 2026-2027 for the contracting of services for start-up
11 business financing and support; provided that businesses
12 eligible for the community-based economic development loan
13 program under chapter 210D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall not
14 be eligible for this program or loans offered pursuant to this
15 Act.

16 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
17 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes
18 of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.



Report Title:

DBEDT; Start-Up Business; Financing; Support; Contracted
Services; Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the Department of Business, Economic
Development, and Tourism for the contracting of services for
start-up business financing and support. Effective 7/1/3000.
(SD2)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

