

# H .B. NO. 1281

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's desire for  
2 economic growth that benefits all residents depends on building  
3 our State's human resources.

4           Realization of Hawaii's longstanding desire for economic  
5 diversification and sustainability turns on applying the State's  
6 high skilled resources to the creation and adoption of  
7 innovation across the economy.

8                           **Legislative Package for 2007 Legislative Session**

9           This Act is part of an initial package of initiatives  
10 focusing on innovation introduced for the 2007 regular session.

11 This package is intended to achieve:

12           (1) A twenty-first century workforce with science,  
13           technology, engineering, math, and problem-solving  
14           skills sufficient to ensure innovation and  
15           sustainability of Hawaii's economy;

16           (2) Higher education institutions as "drivers" for  
17           innovation;

- 1 (3) Continued public investment in the State's innovation  
2 infrastructure;
- 3 (4) Addressing the capital gap for Hawaii's emerging  
4 technology and creative industry companies;
- 5 (5) Opportunities for incumbent workers to engage in life-  
6 long learning and skill-building;
- 7 (6) Residents and businesses with international exposure,  
8 orientation, and skills to interact with and compete  
9 in a global economy;
- 10 (7) An innovation environment that encourages the creation  
11 of new products and services that command global  
12 market share; and
- 13 (8) Analytical capability to assess policy performance and  
14 progress toward innovation economy objectives.
- 15 In particular, this Act expands the role of the office of  
16 international affairs to include the facilitation, coordination,  
17 and promotion of educational relationships and exchanges with  
18 other countries through collaboration with and funding of  
19 existing international programs and organizations. It also  
20 clarifies the office's position as the central point of  
21 accountability in international affairs.

1           SECTION 2. Globalization refers to the increasing  
2 integration of economies and societies around the world, enabled  
3 by human innovation and technological progress. It has set in  
4 motion the means by which goods, services, ideas, and capital  
5 can flow relatively freely across national borders. It has not  
6 only enabled new types of activity, but it has also empowered  
7 individuals and small businesses to undertake economic activity  
8 that previously was reserved for large multinational firms.  
9 While it has increased a whole range of opportunities for those  
10 with minimum means, ability, and willingness to participate in  
11 this new global economy, it has also created major challenges.  
12 For young people graduating from high school or college, this  
13 has meant that they now have to compete for jobs globally.

14           The new global economy demands that we establish Hawaii as a  
15 community of lifelong learners, where children build a strong  
16 foundation in internationalism during the K-12 years, and where  
17 flexible, responsive, and continuing education and training are  
18 available to meet the challenges of the global economy and are  
19 available to all of Hawaii's adults.

20           There are a number of factors – including our location,  
21 multicultural and ethnic population, and an environment  
22 conducive to discussion and negotiation – that support Hawaii as

1 a center for international conferences. However, very little or  
2 no concerted effort has been made to bring resources, plans, and  
3 programs together and in line with any form of a larger vision  
4 for Hawaii, within the context of a rapidly globalizing world.

5 The legislature understands that in order to advance global  
6 competitiveness through education, there needs to be  
7 coordination between the State, counties, educational  
8 institutions, and private agencies on international affairs, as  
9 well as a central point of accountability and a leveraging of  
10 resources.

11 Section 201-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, established the  
12 office of international affairs to carry out various  
13 international responsibilities and duties, but left out  
14 education and training as a means to prepare Hawaii for a  
15 globalized world. It also did not specify that the office of  
16 international affairs would be the coordinator on international  
17 matters for the State. And finally, it did not provide funding  
18 for the office to carry out its broad mandate. This Act  
19 remedies those problems.

20 SECTION 3. Section 201-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
21 amended to read as follows:

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1            "[§ 201-17] **Office of international affairs;**  
2 **established.** (a) There is established, within the department  
3 of business, economic development, and tourism, an office of  
4 international affairs.

5            (b) The office shall:

- 6            (1) Develop policies that promote and strengthen relations  
7                 with other countries in the areas of international  
8                 business, economy, culture, education, and the arts;
- 9            (2) Develop policies that promote transportation between,  
10                 and tourism with, other countries;
- 11           (3) Develop and promote international telecommunications  
12                 and high technology exchanges;
- 13           (4) Encourage the development of international sister-city  
14                 programs, pairing Hawaii cities with cities around the  
15                 globe for artistic, cultural, economic, educational,  
16                 and faith-based exchanges;
- 17           (5) Develop and promote Hawaii as the economic, trade,  
18                 commerce, transportation, banking, ~~and~~ tourism,  
19                 regional headquarters, and international conferences  
20                 hub of the [Pacific;] Asia-Pacific region;
- 21           (6) Develop an international affairs and peace education  
22                 curriculum that includes studies of international

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1           affairs and peace initiatives and takes a proactive,  
2           strategic approach to the development of policies that  
3           promote the prevention of national and international  
4           conflict, nonviolent intervention, mediation, peaceful  
5           resolution of conflict, and structured mediation of  
6           conflict; [~~and~~]

7           (7) Provide for exchanges of individuals between Hawaii  
8           and other nations to develop international and peace-  
9           based initiatives[~~-~~];

10          (8) Facilitate an international educational links program  
11          by increasing collaboration and coordination of  
12          international, educational, business, and community  
13          organizations and providing funding for activities  
14          that shall include, but not be limited to:

15          (A) School excursions from Asia to Hawaii schools,  
16          targeting middle and high school students from  
17          Japan, Taiwan, Korea, and China with special  
18          focus on Hawaii's sister-states, utilizing the  
19          department and its overseas offices to market  
20          school excursions to Hawaii and match these  
21          overseas school visits with Hawaii schools;

1           (B) Study abroad programs, targeting middle and high-  
2           school students from Hawaii's schools, utilizing  
3           the department's overseas offices and focusing on  
4           Hawaii's sister-states, that match Hawaii schools  
5           with overseas schools for school-to-school visits  
6           and hosting. The office shall fund, and  
7           encourage funding sources both public and private  
8           to help finance, the studies abroad; and

9           (C) Teacher exchange programs through which teachers  
10           from Hawaii and abroad exchange a period of time  
11           of teaching. The office shall fund, and  
12           encourage funding sources both public and private  
13           to help finance, the teaching abroad;

14       (9) Facilitate an international leaders program by  
15       facilitating the collaboration and coordination of  
16       international, educational, business, and community  
17       organizations and funding activities that shall  
18       include, but not be limited to:

19       (A) International conferences for high school  
20       students involving international organizations  
21       such as the east west center and the pacific  
22       asian affairs council;

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1           (B) Adopt-a-school programs partnering international  
2           companies and organizations schools for cultural  
3           and educational enrichment;

4           (C) School competitions to become a high-school  
5           fellow at international agencies' programs;

6           (10) Be the State's central point of contact and  
7           accountability in international affairs and serve as  
8           the State's advocate for a global orientation;

9           (11) Inventory existing international programs and develop  
10           a web-based information portal to make this  
11           information available to the public;

12           (12) Encourage the attraction of international conferences  
13           to be held in Hawaii; and

14           (13) Encourage the development of international programming  
15           and content on local radio shows and a dedicated  
16           public access channel for international programs and  
17           issues.

18           ~~[(c) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if any~~  
19           ~~of the responsibilities or duties of the office of international~~  
20           ~~affairs under this section overlap with the responsibilities or~~  
21           ~~duties of another agency or authority under this chapter, the~~  
22           ~~office of international affairs shall have exclusive~~

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1 ~~jurisdiction and authority over those responsibilities and~~  
2 ~~duties.]"~~

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$531,000, or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
6 sum of \$518,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary fiscal  
7 year 2008-2009, for the hiring of an executive director and  
8 administrative assistant and for operating and program expenses.

9 SECTION 5. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the  
10 department of business, economic development, and tourism for  
11 the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

15  
16 INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Calvin K. King*

17 BY REQUEST

JAN 22 2007

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

PURPOSE: To provide funding for the Office of International Affairs, and include in its responsibilities and duties the facilitation and coordination of existing education and training programs, international conferences, and international information for the State as a means to prepare Hawaii for a globalized world.

MEANS: Amend section 201-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and appropriate funds.

JUSTIFICATION: To advance global competitiveness through education, there needs to be coordination between the State, counties, educational institutions, and private agencies on international affairs, as well as a central point of accountability serving as a portal of information, able to leverage resources.

Impact on the public:  
Increased international activities with public and private middle and high schools; increased international activities and awareness.

Impact on the department and other agencies:  
None

GENERAL FUND: \$531,000 for fiscal year 2007-2008, \$518,000 for 2008-2009.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM DESIGNATION: BED 25

OTHER AFFECTED AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2007.