
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The spirit of internationalism has been the
2 foundation for a myriad of activities in business, government,
3 education, and culture, as well as personal ties between our
4 citizens and those from many other nations, especially the
5 Pacific-Asian region.

6 Establishing an office of international affairs will
7 strengthen these ties and the cooperative relationships between
8 the State and countries throughout the world. An office of
9 international affairs will coordinate the international
10 activities of the various state agencies to maximize the use of
11 resources and avoid duplication of efforts. The office will
12 coordinate and focus the State's international efforts, heighten
13 public awareness of the importance of Hawaii's role in the world
14 market, and propose new programs to achieve our international
15 goals.

16 The new global economy demands that we establish Hawaii as
17 a community of lifelong learners, where children build a strong
18 foundation in internationalism during the K-12 years, and where



1 flexible, responsive, and continuing education and training are
2 available to meet the challenges of the global economy and are
3 available to all of Hawaii's adults.

4 However, little effort has been made to bring resources,
5 plans, and programs together and in line with any form of a
6 larger vision for Hawaii, within the context of a rapidly
7 globalizing world. Globalization refers to the increasing
8 integration of economies and societies around the world, enabled
9 by human innovation and technological progress. It has set in
10 motion the means by which goods, services, ideas, and capital
11 can flow relatively freely across national borders. It has not
12 only enabled new types of activity, but it has also empowered
13 individuals and small businesses to undertake economic activity
14 that previously was reserved for large multinational firms.
15 While it has increased a whole range of opportunities for those
16 with minimum means, ability, and willingness to participate in
17 this new global economy, it has also created major challenges.
18 For young people graduating from high school or college, this
19 means that they now have to compete for jobs globally.

20 The legislature recognizes that to advance global
21 competitiveness through education, there needs to be
22 coordination among the State, counties, educational



1 institutions, and private agencies on international affairs, as
2 well as a central point of accountability and a leveraging of
3 resources.

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

13 Besides citizen ambassadors of goodwill, the governor and
14 legislators are often called upon to represent the State in
15 receiving diplomats and foreign dignitaries. Diplomacy and the
16 ability of lawmakers to properly receive foreign dignitaries
17 help to develop international relations with other countries. A
18 protocol fund is necessary to help legislators properly receive
19 diplomats and foreign dignitaries in developing better relations
20 with other countries.

21 There are a number of factors, including our location,
22 multicultural and ethnic population, and an environment



1 conducive to discussion and negotiation, that support Hawaii as
2 a center for international conferences. In addition, Hawaii is
3 currently facing a transportation crisis and is in dire need of
4 exploring transportation options and learning from other
5 countries the best practices in this field. An international
6 symposium on freeways and tollways will bring together freeway
7 and tollway operators, transportation practitioners and
8 researchers specializing in freeway, HOV, and tollway
9 operations. The objectives of the symposium are to:

- 10 (1) Research the practice of freeway and tollway
11 operations;
- 12 (2) Discuss the status of public-private partnerships in
13 freeway development;
- 14 (3) Identify innovative strategies and techniques to
15 improve the proactive management and control of
16 traffic on highways and freeways; and
- 17 (4) Explore the potential benefits of using managed lanes,
18 tolling or road pricing technologies, and other
19 strategies to improve traffic operations on congested
20 freeways.

21 Therefore, Hawaii will benefit by helping to bring the
22 Second International Symposium on Freeways and Highways to



1 Hawaii in 2009 to allow legislators and transportation managers
2 to develop innovative transportation solutions.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 4 (1) Expand the duties of the office of international
5 affairs to play a critical and needed role in
6 fostering, coordinating, and creating international
7 programs and policies to improve and enhance the
8 State's role in international affairs;
- 9 (2) Expand the role of the office of international affairs
10 to include the facilitation, coordination, and
11 promotion of educational relationships and exchanges
12 with other countries through collaboration with and
13 funding of existing international programs and
14 organizations;
- 15 (3) Clarify the office's position as the central point of
16 accountability in international affairs;
- 17 (4) Establish a legislative protocol fund; and
- 18 (5) Bring the Second International Symposium on Freeways
19 and Tollways to Hawaii in 2009.

20 SECTION 2. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
21 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
22 read as follows:



1 "§21- Legislative protocol fund; international
2 affairs. (a) There is established a legislative protocol fund
3 to be administered by the legislature.

4 (b) Appropriations made by the legislature shall be
5 deposited into the fund.

6 (c) The fund shall be used to entertain and provide gifts
7 to visiting international dignitaries and government officials."

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

10 "~~§~~201-17~~§~~ **Office of international affairs;**

11 **established.** (a) There is established, within the department
12 of business, economic development, and tourism, an office of
13 international affairs.

14 (b) The office shall:

15 (1) Develop policies that promote and strengthen relations
16 with other countries in the areas of international
17 business, economy, culture, education, and the arts;

18 (2) Develop policies that promote transportation between,
19 and tourism with, other countries;

20 (3) Develop and promote international telecommunications
21 and high technology exchanges;



- 1 (4) Encourage the development of international sister-city
2 programs, pairing Hawaii cities with cities around the
3 globe for artistic, cultural, economic, educational,
4 and faith-based exchanges;
- 5 (5) Develop and promote Hawaii as the economic, trade,
6 commerce, transportation, banking, ~~and~~ tourism,
7 regional headquarters, and international conferences
8 hub of the ~~[Pacific]~~ Asia-Pacific region;
- 9 (6) Develop an international affairs and peace education
10 curriculum that includes studies of international
11 affairs and peace initiatives and takes a proactive,
12 strategic approach to the development of policies that
13 promote the prevention of national and international
14 conflict, nonviolent intervention, mediation, peaceful
15 resolution of conflict, and structured mediation of
16 conflict; ~~and~~
- 17 (7) Provide for exchanges of individuals between Hawaii
18 and other nations to develop international and peace-
19 based initiatives~~[-]~~;
- 20 (8) Be the State's central point of contact and
21 accountability in international affairs and serve as
22 the State's advocate for a global orientation;



- 1 (9) Inventory existing international programs and develop
2 a web-based information portal to make this
3 information available to the public;
- 4 (10) Encourage the attraction of international conferences
5 to be held in Hawaii;
- 6 (11) Encourage the development of international programming
7 and content on local radio shows and a dedicated
8 public access channel for international programs and
9 issues;
- 10 (12) 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, Philippines, and China with
18 special focus on Hawaii's sister-states, using the
19 department of business, economic development, and
20 tourism and its overseas offices to market school
21 excursions to Hawaii and match these overseas
22 school visits with Hawaii schools;



1 (B) Study abroad programs, targeting middle and high-
2 school students from Hawaii's schools, using the
3 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 in teaching. The office shall fund and encourage
12 funding sources both public and private to help
13 finance teaching abroad;

14 and

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

20 (A) International conferences for high-school
21 students involving international organizations



1 such as the East West Center and the Pacific
2 Asian Affairs Council;

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

6 (C) School competitions to become a high-school
7 fellow at international agencies' programs.

8 ~~[(c) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if any~~
9 ~~of the responsibilities or duties of the office of international~~
10 ~~affairs under this section overlap with the responsibilities or~~
11 ~~duties of another agency or authority under this chapter, the~~
12 ~~office of international affairs shall have exclusive~~
13 ~~jurisdiction and authority over those responsibilities and~~
14 ~~duties.]"~~

15 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$531,000 or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
18 sum of \$518,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary fiscal
19 year 2008-2009 for the hiring of an executive director and
20 administrative assistant for the office of international affairs
21 and for operating and program expenses.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes
3 of this Act.

4 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 to bring
7 the Second International Symposium on Freeway and Tollway
8 Operations to Hawaii in 2009 and to begin preliminary planning
9 for the 2009 conference.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
11 Hawaii at Manoa, college of engineering, for the purposes of
12 this Act.

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

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



Report Title:

Office of International Affairs; Legislative Protocol Fund

Description:

Expands the Office of International Affairs. Establishes a legislative protocol fund. Brings the Second International Symposium on Freeways and Tollways to Hawaii in 2009. Appropriates funds. (HB1547 HD1)

