
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TOURISM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that tourism is the chief
2 generator of employment and revenue in the State, and extends
3 into all sectors of the State's economy. New developments in
4 technology, visitor sophistication, and increased competition
5 from other world tourism markets have challenged Hawaii's
6 tourism industry to attract visitors with specific interests.

7 The legislature recognizes that expansion of the State's
8 tourism product by developing new niche products, such as space
9 tourism, can enhance Hawaii's appeal as a tourist destination.

10 In 2007, Virgin Galactic confirmed viability of space
11 tourism, by earning approximately \$31,000,000 in ticket revenue
12 from over one hundred passengers. On December 15, 2008, the
13 Federal Aviation Administration awarded a launch license for
14 vertical and horizontal launch to the New Mexico Spaceport
15 Authority to establish a commercial spaceport.

16 Space tourism is a potential billion dollar global industry
17 that could significantly increase state revenue sources, provide

1 new aerospace jobs, and rejuvenate economic development in the
2 Kalaheo area. The Federal Aviation Administration is expected
3 to issue a limited number of spaceport licenses, and the
4 legislature finds that it is crucial to position Hawaii for the
5 economic advantages a license may bring.

6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the
7 application for a spaceport license from the Federal Aviation
8 Administration.

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2009-2010 for
12 the application for a spaceport license from the Federal
13 Aviation Administration.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes of
16 this Act.

17 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

Report Title:

Tourism; Space Industry; Federal Aviation Administration;
Spaceport License

Description:

Appropriates funds for the application of a spaceport license
from the Federal Aviation Administration to establish space
tourism in Hawaii. (SD1)