
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that to be successful in
2 the twenty-first century global economy, Hawaii must position
3 itself as a leader in technology development, transfer, and
4 commercialization. Significant progress has been made in past
5 years through programs supported by federal and state
6 initiatives, such as programs administered by the high
7 technology development corporation, Hawaii strategic development
8 corporation, and the Hawaii technology development venture, but
9 more is required to move Hawaii's technology industry to achieve
10 local technology commercialization. Innovation in science and
11 technology fields will not only enable the State to succeed in
12 the global marketplace, but will also support the State's
13 sustainable economic development goals to include a viable and
14 vibrant technology and manufacturing labor force.

15 The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii
16 innovation and technology authority to:

17 (1) Create coherent policy;



- (2) Prioritize investments;
- (3) Promote efficient use of state resources to institute and grow Hawaii's innovation and technology industry;
- (4) Promote a more diverse economy that offers high quality knowledge-based jobs; and
- (5) Develop policy and resource allocations to enable and support start-ups, sustain existing companies, and attract companies to relocate or establish offices in Hawaii.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"CHAPTER

HAWAII INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY AUTHORITY

§ -1 Hawaii innovation and technology authority; establishment; board; president and chief executive officer.

(a) There is established within the department of business, economic development, and tourism for administrative purposes only, the Hawaii innovation and technology authority, which shall be a body corporate and a public instrumentality of the State, for the purpose of implementing this chapter.



1 (b) The Hawaii innovation and technology authority shall
2 be headed by a policy-making board of directors appointed as
3 follows:

4 (1) The members shall be appointed by the governor, senate
5 president, and speaker of the house of representatives
6 for a term of four years; provided that membership on
7 the board shall not exceed eight consecutive years;
8 provided further that each member shall hold office
9 until the member's successor is appointed and
10 qualified;

11 (2) The members shall include at least one representative
12 each from the city and county of Honolulu, county of
13 Hawaii, county of Kauai, and county of Maui;

14 (3) Three members shall be appointed by the governor from
15 a list of three names submitted for each appointment
16 by the president of the senate, and three members
17 shall be appointed by the governor from a list of
18 three names submitted for each appointment by the
19 speaker of the house of representatives;

20 (4) All members shall have knowledge, experience, and
21 expertise in the area of technology, innovation,



1 information systems, computer science, aerospace,
2 agriculture, tourism, environmental science, and/or
3 sustainability; and

4 (5) The governor shall make appointments to ensure the
5 fulfillment of all requirements of this subsection;
6 provided that upon the occurrence of a vacancy, the
7 governor shall notify the president of the senate and
8 the speaker of the house of representatives of any
9 unfulfilled requirements pursuant to this subsection,
10 and the president of the senate or the speaker of the
11 house of representatives, as appropriate, shall submit
12 nominees who fulfill those requirements.

13 (c) The board shall elect a chairperson from among the
14 members.

15 (d) shall constitute a quorum and a minimum of
16 affirmative votes shall be necessary for all actions by
17 the Hawaii innovation and technology authority. The members
18 shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
19 expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the
20 performance of their duties, by the department of business,
21 economic development, and tourism.



1 (e) The board shall appoint one person to serve as
2 president and chief executive officer, who shall oversee the
3 Hawaii innovation and technology authority staff; provided that
4 the compensation package, including salary, shall not exceed
5 fifteen per cent of the three and one-half percent authorized
6 for administrative expenses under ; and provided further
7 that the compensation package shall not include private sector
8 moneys or other contributions. The board shall set the salary,
9 duties, and responsibilities, of the president and chief
10 executive officer. It may grant other benefits as it deems
11 necessary."

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
15 operations of the Hawaii innovation and technology authority.

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

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.
20

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 24 2018



H.B. NO. 2709

Report Title:

Hawaii Innovation and Technology Authority; Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Description:

Creates a Hawaii Innovation and Technology Authority to grow Hawaii's innovation and technology industry to be placed under the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism for administrative purposes.

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