
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that residents of and
2 visitors to the State often have difficulty locating the
3 appropriate state or county application processes when they wish
4 to conduct or participate in recreational activity in the State,
5 including placing a reservation for a state park camping permit
6 or obtaining a license to visit state- or county-owned parks.
7 Commercial operators desiring to do business in the State are
8 also often confused about the required authorizations, licenses,
9 and permits necessary to operate in areas administered by the
10 State or counties, which can lead to a variety of illegal and
11 unauthorized commercial offerings.

12 The legislature further finds that a mobile application
13 that consolidates all of the forms and application processes
14 required to conduct recreational and commercial activities in
15 the State will streamline the application processes and greatly
16 benefit Hawaii's residents, visitors, and commercial operators.
17 The legislature notes that, for this mobile application to be



1 used by people with disabilities and residents and visitors
2 whose first language may not be English, the mobile application
3 must be accessible to people with disabilities and available in
4 multiple languages.

5 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 6 (1) Require the Hawaii tourism authority to develop and
7 publish, through a contract with a third party, a
8 mobile application that includes all online
9 application processes, including the collection of any
10 applicable reservation fees, to acquire a reservation
11 to conduct recreational and commercial activities in
12 the State that are regulated by or under the
13 jurisdiction of a state or county agency;
- 14 (2) Require the Hawaii tourism authority to issue a
15 request for proposal to contract for the development
16 and publishing of the mobile application;
- 17 (3) Establish a tourism enterprise fund; and
- 18 (4) Appropriate funds for the development and publication
19 of the mobile application, including the hiring of a
20 mobile manager.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 201B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 **"§201B-A Mobile application; reservations; recreational**
5 **and commercial activities.** (a) The authority shall develop and
6 publish a mobile application, through a contract with a third
7 party, that includes all online application processes to acquire
8 a permit, license, or reservation needed to conduct recreational
9 and commercial activities in the State that are regulated by or
10 under the jurisdiction of a state or county agency, including
11 but not limited to:

- 12 (1) Permits for a campsite, cabin, or pavilion;
13 (2) Reservations to access certain state parks;
14 (3) Licenses to visit a state- or county-owned park,
15 beach, forest, hiking trail, or other natural area on
16 state or county land, as designated by rule by the
17 board of land and natural resources or appropriate
18 county agency; and
19 (4) Licenses and permits for any other authorized
20 recreational and commercial activities regulated by a
21 state or county agency.



1 (b) The authority shall be responsible for the maintenance
2 of the mobile application required under subsection (a) upon its
3 publication.

4 (c) The mobile application required under subsection (a)
5 shall be accessible to people with disabilities and available in
6 multiple languages, including but not limited to:

7 (1) Traditional and simplified Chinese;

8 (2) Japanese;

9 (3) Korean; and

10 (4) Tagalog.

11 (d) The mobile application required under subsection (a)
12 shall include a visitor satisfaction survey developed by the
13 Hawaii tourism authority to survey visitors departing the State.

14 (e) The mobile application required under subsection (a)
15 shall include a payment system to collect any fees associated
16 with applying for a permit, license, or reservation through the
17 mobile application. The fees shall be deposited into the
18 appropriate department or county subaccount within the tourism
19 enterprise fund under section 201B-B based on the department or
20 county to whom the fee was paid to acquire a permit, license, or
21 reservation. The authority and the counties shall sign



1 memorandums of agreement allowing for the collection of fees
2 associated with applying for a county permit, license, or
3 reservation through the mobile application, to be disbursed to
4 the counties on a quarterly basis pursuant to section 201B-B(c).

5 §201B-B Tourism enterprise fund. (a) There is
6 established outside the state treasury a tourism enterprise fund
7 to be administered by the board, into which shall be deposited
8 the fees collected pursuant to section 201B-A(d) and all
9 investment earnings credited to the fund; provided that the fees
10 shall be deposited into the appropriate department or county
11 subaccount established pursuant to subsection (b).

12 (b) The board shall establish separate subaccounts within
13 the tourism enterprise fund for each department and county that
14 hosts a permit, license, or reservation application on the
15 mobile application established pursuant to section 201B-A.

16 (c) Moneys in the tourism enterprise fund shall be
17 disbursed to the appropriate state or county agency from the
18 tourism enterprise fund on a quarterly basis."

19 SECTION 2. (a) Pursuant to chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised
20 Statutes, the Hawaii tourism authority shall issue a request for
21 proposal to contract for the development and publication of the



1 mobile application required pursuant to section 201B-A, Hawaii
2 Revised Statutes.

3 (b) In developing the mobile application pursuant to
4 subsection (a), the selected vendor shall:

5 (1) Have access to the application programming interface
6 of any existing state or county reservation systems
7 developed to access state or county lands and other
8 resources, including the department of land and
9 natural resource's website and mobile application
10 developed pursuant to Act 182, Session Laws of Hawaii
11 2023, to integrate into the mobile application; and

12 (2) Coordinate with the relevant state and county agencies
13 to develop the payment system for the collection of
14 fees required pursuant to section 201B-A(d), Hawaii
15 Revised Statutes.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
19 the Hawaii tourism authority to issue a request for proposal to
20 contract for the development and publication of a mobile
21 application pursuant to section 2 of this Act, including for the



1 establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) manager
2 position to manage the mobile application, to be hired by the
3 board of directors of the Hawaii tourism authority.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
5 tourism authority for the purposes of this Act.

6 SECTION 4. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
7 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
8 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
9 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
10 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
11 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
12 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
13 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
14 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
15 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
16 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
17 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
18 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
19 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 20 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
21 serve the public interest; and



1 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
2 addressed by this Act.

3 SECTION 5. In codifying the new sections added by section
4 2 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute
5 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating
6 the new sections in this Act.

7 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

9

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 23 2024



H.B. NO. 2563

Report Title:

Hawaii Tourism Authority; Recreational Activities; Commercial Activities; Mobile Application; Tourism Enterprise Fund; Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Requires the Hawaii Tourism Authority to develop and publish, through a contract with a third party, a mobile application that includes all online application processes, including the collection of any applicable reservation fees, to acquire a reservation to conduct recreational and commercial activities in the State that are regulated by or under the jurisdiction of a state or county agency. Requires the Hawaii Tourism Authority to issue a request for proposal to contract for the development and publishing of the mobile application. Establishes a tourism enterprise fund. Appropriates funds for the development and publication of the mobile application, including the hiring of a mobile manager.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

