
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. Hawaii offers a unique opportunity for job
2 growth and economic development through its important geographic
3 location. In fiscal year 2022, the State received almost
4 \$9,000,000,000 in defense spending. Furthermore, the number of
5 defense-related jobs increased by about ten thousand jobs from
6 fiscal year 2018 to fiscal year 2022. Many of these jobs are in
7 the areas of information technology, cybersecurity,
8 intelligence, data science, and advanced manufacturing fields.

9 The purpose of this Act is to build a local workforce to
10 meet this growing demand.

11 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the
14 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
15 2026-2027 for economic diversification to develop and increase
16 the defense-related workforce in the State.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the workforce
2 development council for the purposes of this Act; provided that
3 the workforce development council incorporates and implements:

4 (1) Training programs to:

5 (A) Collaborate with local educational institutions
6 and industry partners to develop specialized
7 training programs, and implement them on fields
8 with high demand such as information technology,
9 cybersecurity, intelligence, data science, and
10 advanced manufacturing; and

11 (B) Career development opportunities for current
12 workforce members to transition into defense-
13 related roles;

14 (2) Establish partnerships with private entities and
15 defense contractors to:

16 (A) Create internship and apprenticeship programs, to
17 offer hands-on experience and career
18 opportunities in defense-related industries; and

19 (B) Facilitate employer-driven training initiatives
20 to ensure alignment with industry needs and
21 standards;



1 (3) Grants and scholarships to:

2 (A) Allocate grants to community colleges,
3 universities, and training centers for career
4 development or career enhancement curriculums to
5 align with defense-related workforce
6 requirements; and

7 (B) Offer scholarships or tuition assistance for
8 students pursuing degrees or certifications in
9 targeted fields;

10 (4) Outreach and recruitment to:

11 (A) Conduct outreach campaigns to raise awareness
12 about opportunities in defense-related fields,
13 with a focus on engaging underrepresented
14 populations, including Native Hawaiians, women,
15 and rural communities; and

16 (B) Host job fairs, workshops, and informational
17 sessions to connect job seekers with training and
18 employment opportunities; and

19 (5) Program evaluation and monitoring to:

20 (A) Evaluate the effectiveness of funded initiatives,
21 by using results from metrics such as job



H.B. NO. 1205

Report Title:

Workforce Development Council; Economic Diversification; Defense Budget; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the workforce development council to incorporate and implement a framework for the workforce diversification and expansion of the defense-related workforce in fields such as information technology, cybersecurity, intelligence, data science, and advanced manufacturing.

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