
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



1 placements, participant satisfaction, and
2 employer feedback; and
3 (B) Use evaluation data to continuously improve
4 program offerings and ensure alignment with
5 workforce demands.

6 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.
7

INTRODUCED BY: _____



JAN 22 2025



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.

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

