
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OUT-OF-STATE OFFICES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that enhancing economic
2 ties between Hawaii and the Philippines presents significant
3 opportunities for strengthening mutual economic development.
4 Filipinos have emerged as the second-largest ethnic group in
5 Hawaii, representing approximately twenty-five per cent of
6 Hawaii's population, and play major roles in all sectors of
7 Hawaii's economy. In addition, President Ferdinand R. Marcos,
8 Jr. has recently emphasized the potential for expanding trade
9 cooperation between the Philippines and Hawaii. Assisting small
10 businesses in developing and marketing products, focusing on
11 strengthening economic development, expanding and diversifying
12 trade opportunities, promoting cultural exchanges, and
13 leveraging the Filipino community in Hawaii can enhance the
14 economic and cultural partnerships between Hawaii and the
15 Philippines and lead to sustained growth and mutual benefits.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
2 department of business, economic development, and tourism to
3 establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines.

4 SECTION 2. The department of business, economic
5 development, and tourism shall establish an out-of-state office
6 in the Philippines as authorized under section 201-81, Hawaii
7 Revised Statutes.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and
11 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
12 year 2026-2027 for the department of business, economic
13 development, and tourism to establish an out-of-state office in
14 the Philippines.

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

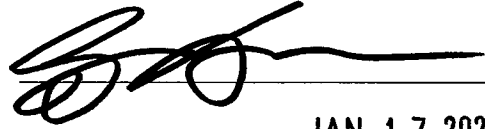
18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



H.B. NO. 437

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 17 2025



H.B. NO. 437

Report Title:

Filipino Caucus; DBEDT; Out-of-state Office; Philippines;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires, and appropriates funds for, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to establish an out-of-state office in the Philippines.

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