
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii
2 technology development corporation's statutory mandate includes
3 facilitating the growth of the technology industry, supporting
4 startups, developing technology infrastructure, encouraging
5 commercialization, coordinating statewide innovation efforts,
6 and promoting Hawaii as a location for technology-based economic
7 activity.

8 The legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No.
9 156, Regular Session of 2025, requesting the Hawaii technology
10 development corporation to increase its focus on advanced
11 manufacturing and cybersecurity to build a stronger, diversified
12 economy, create high-wage job opportunities, and position Hawaii
13 as a leader in innovation and national security in the Pacific.

14 This direction reflects the legislature's recognition that
15 advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity are critical enablers
16 of economic resilience, supply-chain security, workforce
17 development, and national competitiveness.



1 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii technology
2 development corporation previously relied on federal funding
3 through the National Institute of Standards and Technology's
4 Manufacturing Extension Partnership to support advanced
5 manufacturing initiatives statewide. With the termination of
6 this funding, the Hawaii technology development corporation
7 lacks sufficient internal capacity to continue these efforts,
8 respond to legislative direction, and support Hawaii
9 manufacturers, defense-adjacent industries, and emerging
10 technology companies.

11 The legislature also finds that effective ecosystem
12 development also requires sustained investment in marketing,
13 branding, and outreach to increase awareness of Hawaii's
14 technology programs, attract talent and investment, and ensure
15 participation across all islands.

16 The purpose of this Act is to strengthen Hawaii's
17 technology and innovation ecosystem by appropriating funds to
18 establish advanced manufacturing and cybersecurity specialist
19 and marketing and branding specialist positions.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the
2 Hawaii technology development corporation to establish one
3 full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent advanced manufacturing
4 and cybersecurity specialist position to lead statewide
5 initiatives, including but not limited to:

- 6 (1) Supporting activities formerly funded through the
7 National Institute of Standards and Technology's
8 Manufacturing Extension Partnership;
- 9 (2) Advancing legislative priorities related to advanced
10 manufacturing and cybersecurity, including ecosystem
11 coordination and industry support;
- 12 (3) Providing technical assistance to Hawaii
13 manufacturers, suppliers, and technology companies to
14 improve productivity, security, and resilience; and
- 15 (4) Supporting workforce development, cybersecurity
16 readiness, and federal grant competitiveness in
17 advanced manufacturing and related sectors.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
19 technology development corporation for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the
2 Hawaii technology development corporation to establish one
3 full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent marketing and branding
4 specialist position to support the corporation's strategic plan,
5 including but not limited to:

6 (1) Marketing technology programs, facilities, and funding
7 opportunities administered or supported by the
8 corporation;

9 (2) Developing and managing statewide branding efforts to
10 strengthen Hawaii's technology and innovation
11 ecosystem;

12 (3) Managing public information, outreach, communications,
13 and stakeholder engagement;

14 (4) Supporting conferences, events, talent-attraction
15 initiatives, and ecosystem convenings; and

16 (5) Advancing the objectives of the corporation's
17 strategic plan and legislative priorities.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
19 technology development corporation for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

21



H.B. NO. 1613

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 16 2026



H.B. NO. 1613

Report Title:

HTDC; Advanced Manufacturing and Cybersecurity Specialist; Marketing and Branding Specialist; Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation to establish Advanced Manufacturing and Cybersecurity Specialist and Marketing and Branding Specialist positions.

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