

ACT 244

H.B. NO. 1227

A Bill for an Act Relating to Space.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The State of Hawaii, by virtue of its geography, geology, and other special attributes, may be an ideal location to establish a significant new industry based on space technology. Space activities promise enormous growth potential into the twenty-first century. Hawaii perhaps can capitalize upon this opportunity by further utilizing its natural assets including: accessible high mountains, ideal temperature ranges, clear air, and geographic location.

Already in place is the world-class facility on Mauna Kea for optical and infrared astronomy, a satellite-tracking facility on Haleakala, and state-of-the-art telecommunications facilities throughout the State. The ability to launch both polar and equatorial satellites from Hawaii is also unequalled at any other U.S. location. The ongoing activities, along with Hawaii's natural assets, need to be integrated into a comprehensive program if we are to promote space activities as a new, major growth industry in the State.

The legislature finds that the space technology industry may be appropriate for Hawaii if it would utilize our unique characteristics and still be compatible with our goals of maintaining our natural environment and developing an industry with challenging growth opportunities for our children.

The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to explore the feasibility of establishing a major space technology industry in Hawaii.

Furthermore, the University of Hawaii will participate in this effort and may be supportive through its development of technologies to produce hydrogen from indigenous energy sources through the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, so that the availability of hydrogen fuel for the spaceport can be assured.

SECTION 2. The department of planning and economic development shall conduct a preliminary feasibility evaluation which shall include, but not be limited to, a feasibility study analyzing the necessary land infrastructure and support services and identifying possible environmental and social impacts which would be created by a space technology industry in Hawaii based on research activities, commercial activities, a satellite launch facility, and related services. The feasibility study should also identify estimated costs for the development of the space industry and launch facility and inventory potential sites, including an evaluation of Palmyra as a possible location for the launch facility.

To the extent possible for such a preliminary feasibility study contemplated to be the first of a series of increasingly more detailed studies, the following specific areas are to be included:

- (1) The nature and number of jobs likely to be created directly and indirectly;
- (2) The training needed to prepare people for these jobs;
- (3) The general infrastructure requirements of such a facility, such as power and water supplies, housing, schools, hospitals, transportation, recreational services, and possible other needs;
- (4) General land requirements including buffer zones, potential need for condemnation, and effect on land under the jurisdiction of Hawaiian Homes;
- (5) Need for construction of a deep draft harbor;
- (6) Importance of wind conditions, wind shear, earthquake potential, and other natural hazards;
- (7) Potential noise pollution; and air, sea, and water pollution from aluminum, aluminum oxide, hydrochloric acid, or other chemicals;
- (8) Potential risk posed to residents surrounding launch sites from accidental or intentional destruction of rockets, and from transportation of dangerous materials;
- (9) Potential impact on agriculture, aquaculture, and the fishing industry operating near launch sites;
- (10) Potential impact on marine mammals or other wildlife;
- (11) Potential impact on historic sites surrounding launch sites;
- (12) Potential impact on astronomical facilities on Mauna Kea;
- (13) State and county permit requirements for space facilities; and
- (14) Potential liability for county or state governments or the general public.

It shall prepare a version of the preliminary feasibility study to be available for circulation at the international space conference to be held in

Hawaii in August 1987. Subsequent feasibility evaluation may be conducted as required.

In addition to the feasibility study, the department of planning and economic development may undertake the necessary steps to acquaint national and international space interests with Hawaii's desire to be considered as a site for a major space center. This may include sponsoring space-related conferences and seminars to collect information and acquaint experts with Hawaii's unique characteristics in this area.

A final copy of the preliminary feasibility evaluation, including recommendations for further expenditures in fiscal year 1988-1989, and subsequent feasibility evaluation reports which may have been completed, shall be submitted to the legislature twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 1988.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$450,000 for fiscal year 1987-1988 to carry out the purpose of this Act. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of planning and economic development.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1987.

(Approved June 24, 1987.)