

ACT 349

S.B. NO. 2884

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Tourism Training Council.

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

SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**“CHAPTER  
TOURISM TRAINING COUNCIL**

§ -1 **Findings and purpose.** The legislature finds that the visitor industry is a mainstay of Hawaii’s economy, generating approximately 176,000 jobs both directly in hotels, food and beverage establishments, gift and souvenir shops, air and ground transportation companies, and entertainment, and indirectly in other businesses. To maintain the quality of Hawaii’s visitor industry and to meet the competition from other tourist destination areas within and outside of the United States, the visitor industry must have available a supply of quality workers. Hawaii’s tourist industry workers must also have the opportunity for employment stability, upward mobility, and career advancement in the visitor industry. The legislature recognizes that quality training programs and projects to address imbalances caused by shifts between labor shortages and surpluses are critical to the present and future vitality of the State’s visitor industry.

The legislature also finds that the tourism training council appointed by the governor in 1985 provides the essential human resources planning component that has been missing from the State’s economic development efforts in the visitor industry. The legislature further finds that statutory recognition of the council will provide a stable coordinating body to implement the State’s long-range plans,

monitor the training programs, and fund innovative programs to address visitor industry labor needs. The purpose of this chapter, therefore, is to statutorily establish a tourism training council to monitor and coordinate government and industry activities and programs that develop and improve the quality of the visitor industry workforce and to encourage opportunities for upgrading and career development for present and future visitor industry employees.

§ -2 **Tourism training council; establishment; composition.** There is established within the department of labor and industrial relations a tourism training council. The members of the council shall be appointed by the governor for staggered terms of four years in accordance with section 26-34. Each term shall commence on July 1 of the year of appointment. The council shall consist of at least ten but not more than fifteen members representing organizations for visitor industry management; labor unions representing visitor industry workers; public and private visitor industry education and training programs; and the state commission on employment and human resources. The director of labor and industrial relations shall serve as an ex officio member. The council shall elect a chairperson from among its members. The council members shall serve without compensation but shall be allowed personal expenses, at the rates specified in section 78-15, while attending council meetings or while on official business when such council meetings or official business requires a member to leave the island upon which the member resides.

- § -3 **Functions and duties of council.** The tourism training council shall:
- (1) Advise and make recommendations to the governor, legislature, and the visitor industry regarding visitor industry employment and visitor industry training programs;
  - (2) Assess the status of visitor industry employment and visitor industry training programs and determine their appropriateness and adequacy for the needs of the industry and current and future employees;
  - (3) Develop and test innovative and evolving models to meet the labor needs of the visitor industry through research, demonstration projects, and evaluation;
  - (4) Plan and implement the transfer of proven projects to appropriate agencies for institutionalization;
  - (5) Act as the State's clearinghouse for all visitor industry training programs by obtaining information and making recommendations as necessary to the University of Hawaii, department of education, department of business and economic development, and department of commerce and consumer affairs on new training programs or on the modification or termination of existing programs; and
  - (6) Advocate the improvement of knowledge and skills necessary for visitor industry training programs.

§ -4 **Contracts.** The tourism training council may make, execute, enter into, amend, supplement, and carry out contracts, and all other instruments the council finds are necessary or convenient for the fulfillment of its functions and duties.

§ -5 **Staff.** The tourism training council may appoint such staff as it deems necessary to carry out its functions and duties. The staff of the council shall report to the executive director of the commission on employment and human resources.

§ -6 **Annual report.** The tourism training council shall submit an annual report of its activities and recommendations to the governor and the legislature at least twenty days prior to the convening of every regular session of the legislature.

§ -7 **Program review.** The legislature, during the regular session of 1993, shall review the tourism training council operations to assess the need for continuation of the council.”

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$78,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1988-1989, to the department of labor and industrial relations/tourism training council to be used to develop and expand vocational education and training programs for the visitor industry at the community colleges of the University of Hawaii system. These programs may include, but not be limited to, expanded offerings through existing vocational education programs in travel industry management as well as new career development programs. The programs funded by this appropriation shall be developed in consultation with government and private industry to meet the statewide needs of the visitor industry. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of labor and industrial relations for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$78,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1988-1989, to the department of labor and industrial relations/tourism training council to be used to develop and expand management and professional level programs on the outer islands through the School of Travel Industry Management. These programs include, but not be limited to, expanded offerings through existing professional programs in travel industry management as well as new programs at the management and professional levels in consultation with government and private industry to meet the statewide needs of the visitor industry. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of labor and industrial relations for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval; provided that sections 2 and 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1, 1988.

(Approved June 14, 1988.)