

ACT 355

H.B. NO. 2027

A Bill for an Act Relating to Business and Economic Development.

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

SECTION 1. Activities related to space exploration and development offer unique opportunities for the State to broaden and diversify its economic base. Hawaii is an ideal location for such activities because of its location midway between the United States and Asia and the nations of the South Pacific, its warm climate allowing year-round operations, and because of the many space-related programs which already exist in the State. It has been reported that a “narrow window of opportunity” exists; and therefore, there is an acute need to move the development of Hawaii’s space program ahead as quickly as possible. For this reason, it is urgent that an office of space industry be established, to develop, coordinate, and monitor the progress of a strategic plan for Hawaii’s space industry.

SECTION 2. Chapter 201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“PART . OFFICE OF SPACE INDUSTRY

§201- Definitions. As used in this part:

“Director” means the director of the office of space industry. .

“Office” means the office of space industry.

§201- Office of space industry; establishment. (a) There is established an office of space industry in the department of business and economic development.

(b) The director shall have experience, knowledge, and expertise in space-related activities and development. The director shall be nominated and appointed by the governor without regard to chapters 76 and 77.

(c) The director shall hire staff necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

(d) The director and employees of the office shall be included in any benefit program generally applicable to the officers and employees of the State.

§201- Powers and duties of director. In addition to any other powers and duties provided in this chapter, the director shall:

- (1) Oversee, supervise, and direct the planning, evaluation, and coordination of space-related activities in the State;
- (2) Initiate discussions for private and international involvement in space-related activities in the State;
- (3) Review the effectiveness of present publications, pamphlets, and other sources of information about Hawaii's space-related activities produced and distributed by the State;
- (4) Have the office serve as a clearinghouse for information on Hawaii's space-related activities, to include but not be limited to, those of the University of Hawaii and federal agencies located in Hawaii;
- (5) Develop a business plan for a commercial space facility and for pursuing appropriate business partners;
- (6) Target existing businesses which can provide products or services of importance to the space industry to support the expansion of such businesses in Hawaii;
- (7) Increase contact and maintain liaison with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and other federal agencies and facilities;
- (8) Institute procedures by which citizen input on proposed space facilities development shall be invited at the earliest possible time in the development process;
- (9) Develop, in consultation with the office of Hawaiian affairs and other Hawaiian organizations, appropriate mechanisms for the consideration and protection of Hawaiian cultural values and resources, religious rights, and traditional and customary uses which may be affected by space-related activities;
- (10) Adopt, amend, and repeal rules pursuant to chapter 91 necessary to carry out this part;
- (11) Contract for such services as may be necessary for the purposes of this part; and
- (12) Do all other things necessary or proper to carry out the purposes of this part.

§201- Communities near space facilities; residents. The director shall take steps to ensure that residents of communities surrounding space facilities are provided education and training pertaining to jobs created by space-related activities. The director shall ensure that space industry companies in the State are committed to hiring community residents for jobs for which they hold appropriate qualifications and providing goods and services for the enhancement of community life."

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1988.

(Approved June 14, 1988.)