ACT 225

H.B. NO. 1863

A Bill for an Act Relating to Consumer and Business Education.

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

SECTION 1. Section 26-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (l) to read as follows:

- ''(l) Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, the director of commerce and consumer affairs may:
 - (1) Establish, increase, decrease, or repeal fees relating to any aspect of the registration, certification, licensure, or any other administrative process for all laws within the jurisdiction of the department. The fee assessed shall bear a reasonable relationship between the revenue derived from the fee and the cost or value of services rendered. Amendments to fee assessments shall be made pursuant to chapter 91; [and]
 - (2) Assess fees for copies in any form of media of the computerized records of the business registration division or for electronic access to the computerized information on a one-time or on-going basis. The fees charged for the copies or access may include billing service fees, network usage fees, and computer consultant fees. In adopting these fees, the [division] director shall [continue in its attempt to be] take into account the intent to make the division self-supporting. To this end, the fees may reflect the commercial value of the service or information provided. In the case of requests for records by a nonprofit organization, the [department] director may reduce or waive the fees. This

[provision] <u>paragraph</u> shall control in any instance where there is a conflict between this [provision] <u>paragraph</u> and any other <u>statute[.]</u>; and

Assess fees for copies of consumer and business educational publications prepared or issued by the department. Fees collected under this paragraph shall be deposited into the compliance resolution fund under subsection (o). The fees assessed shall bear a reasonable relationship between the revenue derived from the fee and the cost of producing the materials issued. In the case of requests for copies by a nonprofit organization, the director may reduce or waive the fees. For purposes of this paragraph, "consumer and business educational publications" does not include copies of statutes or administrative rules.

[Effective July 1, 1994, the] <u>The</u> fees collected by the professional and vocational licensing division and the business registration division shall be deposited into the compliance resolution fund under subsection (o) and shall be used to defray administrative costs, including personnel costs associated with these two programs

and costs incurred by supporting offices and divisions.

The director may appoint program specialists, not subject to chapters 76 and 77, to assist with the activities of the professional and vocational licensing division."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 16, 1997.)