

ACT 231

S.B. NO. 1721

A Bill for an Act Relating to a State Cultural Public Market.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, unlike anywhere else in the United States, Hawaii's population comprises a multitude of ethnic groups and cultures. Hawaii serves as a melting pot of many different cultures that happily co-exist and commingle to form a richly diverse environment that makes Hawaii unique. Such diversity is apparent in the wide variety of ethnic foods, clothing, artworks and crafts, and entertainment available throughout the state. Cultural diversity is also evident in the many cultural festivals held throughout the year that allow residents and visitors alike to experience the tastes, sights, and sounds of different ethnic groups.

Although this cultural diversity can be experienced on a daily basis in Hawaii, we lack a single venue to experience and learn more about the host Hawaiian culture as well as the many different cultures that reflect the populace of our islands. To promote cultural awareness as well as economic development within the state, we must capitalize on the rich diversity of the many different cultures found within Hawaii. Across the nation, cities such as Seattle, Washington; Portland, Maine; Los Angeles, California; and New York City, New York, have experienced great economic success as a result of the establishment of local public or farmer's markets. The creation of new business opportunities for Hawaii entrepreneurs, including local farmers and locally-owned businesses, will help to spur growth in our local economy.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a cultural public market in the city and county of Honolulu, on state-owned land within the Kakaako Makai area. The cultural public market will provide an opportunity, at a single venue, for exposure to, and education and awareness of, the host Hawaiian culture and the many ethnic groups present within the state through the sale of ethnic foods, produce, and products, the exhibition and sale of cultural artworks and crafts, the showcasing of artists and entertainers, and the presentation of information on the culture and history of the various ethnic groups in Hawaii.

SECTION 2. (a) There shall be established within the Hawaii community development authority a state cultural public market.

(b) The cultural public market shall be located on state land within the Kakaako Makai area and developed pursuant to sections 206E-31, 206E-32, and 206E-33, Hawaii Revised Statutes. A public parking lot shall be included.

(c) The Hawaii community development authority shall:

- (1) Designate and develop the state-owned land for the cultural public market;
- (2) Accept, for consideration, input regarding the establishment of the cultural public market from the following departments and agencies:
 - (A) The department of agriculture;
 - (B) The department of business, economic development, and tourism;
 - (C) The department of land and natural resources;
 - (D) The department of labor and industrial relations; and
 - (E) The Hawaii tourism authority;
- (3) Consider and determine the propriety of using public-private partnerships in the development and operation of the cultural public market;
- (4) Develop, distribute, and accept requests for proposals from private entities for plans to develop and operate the cultural public market; and
- (5) Ensure that the Hawaiian culture is the featured culture in the cultural public market.

ACT 231

(d) Requests for proposals for the cultural public market shall contemplate but not be limited to the inclusion of the following types of facilities and services:

- (1) Retail outlets for ethnically diverse products;
- (2) Venues for businesses with ethnic themes, including restaurants and other service-related businesses;
- (3) Theaters, stages, and arenas designed to showcase cultural performing artists as well as community performing arts;
- (4) Exhibition space or museums that showcase artwork created by international and local artists; and
- (5) Museums or other educational facilities focusing on the history and cultures of the various ethnic groups within Hawaii, including Hawaiian history.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on October 1, 2005.

(Became law on July 12, 2005, without the Governor's signature, pursuant to Art. III, §16, State Constitution.)