

ACT 121

S.B. NO. 1421

A Bill for an Act Relating to Dual Use Technology.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that dual use technology companies in Hawaii are vital to economic growth and a diversified economy. Dual use refers to technologies that can be used for peaceful and military aims. The legislature further finds that Hawaii businesses are in an exceptional position to take advantage of the strong presence of the military in the State and the research conducted on its behalf. However, the legislature additionally finds that the State's focus on tourism has taken away from potentially innovative concepts, new approaches to technology, and the leveraging of existing facilities and military funding. Technologies developed for military use have been appropriated by businesses in the past with extraordinary success, and such technologies have the potential to significantly contribute to Hawaii's economic recovery and subsequently decrease its reliance on tourism.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to explore how dual use technology can be used to promote the State's economic recovery and diversify its economy.

SECTION 2. (a) There is established the dual use technology task force within the department of business, economic development, and tourism for administrative purposes. The dual use technology task force shall:

- (1) Explore potential dual use technology research and development projects for technology companies;
 - (2) Establish high-growth new venture company infrastructure development for dual use technology companies; and
 - (3) Create ideas for high-income job opportunities for Hawaii's residents and graduates of Hawaii's educational institutions.
- (b) The dual use technology task force shall consist of the following

members:

- (1) One representative from the department of business, economic development, and tourism, designated by the department's director;
- (2) One representative from the University of Hawaii;
- (3) One representative from the Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii, Inc., who shall be jointly selected and invited to participate by the speaker of the house of representatives and president of the senate;
- (4) One representative from the Hawaii technology development corporation;
- (5) One representative from the department of labor's workforce development task force; and
- (6) One representative from the Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, who shall be jointly selected and invited to participate by the speaker of the house of representatives and president of the senate.

The speaker of the house of representatives and president of the senate may recommend additional members with appropriate specialized expertise to be invited to participate on the dual use technology task force.

(c) Members of the dual use technology task force shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

- (d) The dual use technology task force shall:

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- (1) Submit a preliminary report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023; provided that the preliminary report shall discuss the objectives and issues listed in subsection (a); and
- (2) Submit a final report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

(e) The department of business, economic development, and tourism shall provide administrative and clerical support as required by the dual use technology task force.

(f) For the purposes of this section, “dual use technology” means technology that has military and civilian applications; provided that “dual use technology” may be amended and refined by the task force over time as part of its findings and recommendations.

(g) The dual use technology task force shall be dissolved on July 1, 2025.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2021.

(Approved June 28, 2021.)