

ACT 176

S.B. NO. 1502

A Bill for an Act Relating to the University of Hawaii.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State offers a unique opportunity for job growth and economic development through its important geographic location. During fiscal year 2022, the State received almost \$9 billion in defense spending. Furthermore, from fiscal years 2018 to 2022, the number of defense-related jobs increased by about ten thousand. Many of these jobs are in the areas of information technology, cybersecurity, intelligence, and data science, providing good-paying jobs for the State's local economy. To meet the growing demand for jobs in these fields, the State should utilize and invest in the expertise offered at the business administration program at the university of Hawaii West Oahu.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the university of Hawaii to hire faculty at the business administration program at the university of Hawaii West Oahu for workforce development to support the defense sector of the State's economy.

SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$195,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the establishment of the following positions:

- (1) One half-time equivalent (0.5 FTE) faculty for the director of the cybersecurity coordination center; and
- (2) One full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) faculty for the director of the cybersecurity research laboratory,

for the business administration program at the university of Hawaii West Oahu for workforce development in the defense sector of the State's economy.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the university of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$270,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for student internship programs, certifications, software, and other related expenses for the business administration program at the university of Hawaii West Oahu for workforce development in the defense sector of the State's economy; provided that federal funding is lost.

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the university of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

(Approved June 6, 2025.)