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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SISTER STATE AND PROVINCE RELATIONSHIPS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to statutorily  
2 reestablish the process for initiating and maintaining sister  
3 state and sister province relationships as outlined by the  
4 former state office of international relations in 1993.

5 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by  
6 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read  
7 as follows:

8 **"CHAPTER**

9 **SISTER STATE AND PROVINCE RELATIONSHIPS**

10 § -1 **Definition.** For the purposes of this chapter,  
11 unless the context otherwise requires, "sister state or province  
12 relationship" means a relationship between the State of Hawaii  
13 and the state or province or similar governmental or political  
14 subdivision of a foreign nation.

15 § -2 **Hawaii sister state committee.** There shall be  
16 established the Hawaii sister state committee, to be placed  
17 within the department of business, economic development, and  
18 tourism for administrative purposes only, consisting of five

1 members appointed by the governor as provided in section 26-34.  
2 The governor shall appoint five members, one member from each of  
3 five lists of nominees submitted respectively by the following:

- 4 (1) Speaker of the house of representatives;
- 5 (2) President of the senate;
- 6 (3) Native Hawaii cultural organization;
- 7 (4) East-West Center; and
- 8 (5) Hawaii State Association of Counties.

9 Members shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed  
10 for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the  
11 performance of their duties.

12 § -3 **Initiating sister-state relationships.** The Hawaii  
13 sister state committee shall evaluate and develop  
14 recommendations for the initiation of all sister state or  
15 province relationships and forward its recommendation to the  
16 legislature. The legislature, if it so chooses, shall implement  
17 the recommendation to initiate a sister state or province  
18 relationship by either adopting a concurrent resolution or by  
19 enacting session law to that effect.

20 § -4 **Maintaining sister state relationships.** The Hawaii  
21 sister state committee shall periodically evaluate established  
22 sister state relationships and forward its recommendations on



1 maintaining sister state relationships to the governor and to  
2 the legislature.

3       §   -5 **Dissolving sister state relationships.** The Hawaii  
4 sister state committee may make a recommendation to terminate a  
5 sister state relationship it deems to be defunct, moribund, or  
6 not beneficial and forward its recommendation to the  
7 legislature. The legislature, if it so chooses, shall implement  
8 the recommendation to terminate a sister state relationship  
9 either by adopting a concurrent resolution or by enacting  
10 session law to that effect."

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



**Report Title:**

Sister State Relationships; Statutory Authority

**Description:**

Statutorily establishes a Hawaii sister state committee to recommend sister state or province relationships for the legislature's action. (SD1)

