
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the self-sufficiency
2 standard is the actual amount needed to afford minimum basic
3 needs such as food, housing, and healthcare. The legislature
4 also finds that the self-sufficiency standard is a more
5 realistic guide for evaluating programs, designing new policies,
6 and setting benchmarks for measuring economic success for the
7 State of Hawaii.

8 In 2003, the commission on the status of women funded a
9 report, *The Self-Sufficiency Report for Hawaii*, which provided
10 an in-depth study of the actual cost to live in Hawaii in nine
11 communities throughout the State. The self-sufficiency
12 standards in this study ranged from double to triple the federal
13 poverty guidelines.

14 The purpose of this Act is to establish a self-sufficiency
15 standard, to be updated biannually, to be used to determine the
16 level of public assistance.



1 SECTION 2. Section 201-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§201-3 Specific research and promotional functions of the**
4 **department.** Without prejudice to its general functions and
5 duties the department of business, economic development, and
6 tourism shall have specific functions in the following areas:

7 (1) Industrial development. The department shall
8 determine through technical and economic surveys the
9 profit potential of new or expanded industrial
10 undertakings; develop through research projects and
11 other means new and improved industrial products and
12 processes; promote studies and surveys to determine
13 consumer preference as to design and quality and to
14 determine the best methods of packaging, transporting,
15 and marketing the State's industrial products;
16 disseminate information to assist the present
17 industries of the State, to attract new industries to
18 the State, and to encourage capital investment in
19 present and new industries in the State; assist
20 associations of producers and distributors of
21 industrial products to introduce [~~such~~] these products
22 to consumers; and make [~~such~~] grants or contracts as



- 1 may be necessary or advisable to accomplish the
2 foregoing;
- 3 (2) Land development. The department shall encourage the
4 most productive use of all land in the State in
5 accordance with a general plan developed by the
6 department; encourage the improvement of land tenure
7 practices on leased private lands; promote an
8 informational program directed to landowners,
9 producers of agricultural and industrial commodities,
10 and the general public regarding the most efficient
11 and most productive use of the lands in the State; and
12 make [~~such~~] grants or contracts as may be necessary or
13 advisable to accomplish the foregoing;
- 14 (3) Credit development. The department shall conduct a
15 continuing study of agricultural and industrial credit
16 needs; encourage the development of additional private
17 and public credit sources for agricultural and
18 industrial enterprises; promote an informational
19 program to acquaint financial institutions with
20 agricultural and industrial credit needs and the
21 potential for agricultural and industrial expansion,
22 and inform producers of agricultural and industrial



1 products as to the manner in which to qualify for
2 loans; and make [~~such~~] grants or contracts as may be
3 necessary or advisable to accomplish the foregoing;

4 (4) Promotion. The department shall disseminate
5 information developed for or by the department
6 pertaining to economic development to assist present
7 industry in the State, attract new industry and
8 investments to the State, and assist new and emerging
9 industry with good growth potential or prospects in
10 jobs, exports, and new products. The industrial and
11 economic promotional activities of the department may
12 include the use of literature, advertising,
13 demonstrations, displays, market testing, lectures,
14 travel, motion picture and slide films, and [~~such~~]
15 other promotional and publicity devices as may be
16 appropriate; [~~and~~]

17 (5) Tourism research and statistics. The department shall
18 maintain a program of research and statistics for the
19 purpose of:

20 (A) Measuring and analyzing tourism trends;



- 1 (B) Providing information and research to assist in
- 2 the development and implementation of state
- 3 tourism policy;
- 4 (C) Encouraging and arranging for the conduct of
- 5 tourism research and information development
- 6 through voluntary means or through contractual
- 7 services with qualified agencies, firms, or
- 8 persons; and
- 9 (D) Providing tourism information to policy makers,
- 10 the public, and the visitor industry. This
- 11 includes:
 - 12 (i) Collecting and publishing visitor-related
 - 13 data including visitor arrivals, visitor
 - 14 characteristics and expenditures;
 - 15 (ii) Collecting and publishing hotel-related
 - 16 statistics including the number of units
 - 17 available, occupancy rates, and room rates;
 - 18 (iii) Collecting and publishing airline-related
 - 19 data including seat capacity and number of
 - 20 flights;



- 1 (iv) Collecting information and conducting
- 2 analyses of the economic, social, and
- 3 physical impacts of tourism on the State;
- 4 (v) Conducting periodic studies of the impact of
- 5 ongoing marketing programs of the Hawaii
- 6 tourism authority on Hawaii's tourism
- 7 industry, employment in Hawaii, state taxes,
- 8 and the State's lesser known and
- 9 underutilized destinations; and
- 10 (vi) Cooperate with the Hawaii tourism authority
- 11 and provide it with the above information in
- 12 a timely manner[-]; and

13 (6) Self-sufficiency standard. The department shall
 14 establish biannually a self-sufficiency standard,
 15 which defines the minimum amount of income required in
 16 Hawaii to meet basic needs, including housing, food,
 17 childcare, transportation, healthcare, all taxes, and
 18 other expenses such as clothing, shoes, utilities, and
 19 household items. The standard shall be based on
 20 existing models.

21 The department shall be the central agency to coordinate
 22 film permit activities in the State."



1 SECTION 3. The department of business, economic
2 development, and tourism shall report to the legislature with
3 the self-sufficiency standard no later than twenty days prior to
4 the convening of the regular session of 2009, and annually
5 thereafter.

6 SECTION 4. The department of business, economic
7 development, and tourism shall periodically advise and make
8 recommendations for the utilization of any federal funding
9 including, but not limited to, Temporary Assistance for Needy
10 Families and Workforce Investment Act funds that may be
11 available for the purposes of establishing and updating the self
12 sufficiency standards.

13 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
16 the department of business, economic development, and tourism to
17 hire one staff position to establish and update the self-
18 sufficiency standard.

19 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
20 business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes of
21 this Act.



1 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

4

INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Keiki Caucus; Self-sufficiency Standard

Description:

Requires the department of business, economic development, and tourism to establish, update, and define the self-sufficiency standard.

