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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a self-sufficiency  
2 standard that is measured appropriately and updated consistently  
3 for the State of Hawaii would much more accurately reflect the  
4 actual income needed to afford the basic necessities of life.  
5 In 2003, a study conducted for the Hawaii state commission on  
6 the status of women calculated the bare-minimum costs for  
7 housing, child care, food, transportation, health care, clothing  
8 and household costs, and federal and state tax obligations. The  
9 study resulted in a measure designed to document a cost of  
10 living standard that takes into account family size, children's  
11 ages, geography, and number of household wage-earners. The  
12 study found that certain households in Hawaii could require as  
13 much as double to triple the amount listed in the federal  
14 poverty guidelines to meet their basic living needs. A self-  
15 sufficiency standard for Hawaii would be an excellent tool for  
16 lawmakers, the business and education community, and the



1 nonprofit sector to improve the way they help lower income  
2 families reach economic sufficiency.

3 The purpose of this Act is to establish and biannually  
4 update a self-sufficiency standard for Hawaii.

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

7 "**§201-3 Specific research and promotional functions of the**  
8 **department.** Without prejudice to its general functions and  
9 duties the department of business, economic development, and  
10 tourism shall have specific functions in the following areas:

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



1 present and new industries in the State; assist  
2 associations of producers and distributors of  
3 industrial products to introduce such products to  
4 consumers; and make such grants or contracts as may be  
5 necessary or advisable to accomplish the foregoing;

6 (2) Land development. The department shall encourage the  
7 most productive use of all land in the State in  
8 accordance with a general plan developed by the  
9 department; encourage the improvement of land tenure  
10 practices on leased private lands; promote an  
11 informational program directed to landowners,  
12 producers of agricultural and industrial commodities,  
13 and the general public regarding the most efficient  
14 and most productive use of the lands in the State; and  
15 make such grants or contracts as may be necessary or  
16 advisable to accomplish the foregoing;

17 (3) Credit development. The department shall conduct a  
18 continuing study of agricultural and industrial credit  
19 needs; encourage the development of additional private  
20 and public credit sources for agricultural and  
21 industrial enterprises; promote an informational  
22 program to acquaint financial institutions with



1 agricultural and industrial credit needs and the  
2 potential for agricultural and industrial expansion,  
3 and inform producers of agricultural and industrial  
4 products as to the manner in which to qualify for  
5 loans; and make such grants or contracts as may be  
6 necessary or advisable to accomplish the foregoing;

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

20 (5) Tourism research and statistics. The department shall  
21 maintain a program of research and statistics for the  
22 purpose of:



- 1 (A) Measuring and analyzing tourism trends;
- 2 (B) Providing information and research to assist in
- 3 the development and implementation of state
- 4 tourism policy;
- 5 (C) Encouraging and arranging for the conduct of
- 6 tourism research and information development
- 7 through voluntary means or through contractual
- 8 services with qualified agencies, firms, or
- 9 persons; and
- 10 (D) Providing tourism information to policy makers,
- 11 the public, and the visitor industry. This
- 12 includes:
  - 13 (i) Collecting and publishing visitor-related
  - 14 data including visitor arrivals, visitor
  - 15 characteristics and expenditures;
  - 16 (ii) Collecting and publishing hotel-related
  - 17 statistics including the number of units
  - 18 available, occupancy rates, and room rates;
  - 19 (iii) Collecting and publishing airline-related
  - 20 data including seat capacity and number of
  - 21 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 and update biannually a self-sufficiency  
15 standard that shall incorporate existing methods of  
16 calculation, and shall reflect, at minimum, costs  
17 relating to housing, child care, food, transportation,  
18 health care, clothing and household expenses, federal  
19 and state tax obligations, family size, children's  
20 ages, geography, and number of household wage-earners.

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 first self-sufficiency standard no later than twenty days  
4 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2009, and  
5 provide the legislature with biannual self-sufficiency standard  
6 updates thereafter.

7 SECTION 4. The department of business, economic  
8 development, and tourism shall recommend the procurement or use  
9 of federal monies whenever appropriate to establish and update  
10 biannually the self-sufficiency standard.

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

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

20 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 15 2008





**Report Title:**

Public Assistance; Self-Sufficiency Standard; Appropriation

**Description:**

Makes appropriation to DBEDT to create one staff position to establish and update biannually a self-sufficiency standard for Hawaii.

