
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 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
6 on 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 result was a measurement of the cost of living in Hawaii that
10 took into account family size, children's ages, geography, and
11 number of household wage-earners. The study found that certain
12 households in Hawaii could require as much as double to triple
13 the amount listed in the federal poverty guidelines to meet
14 their basic living needs. A self-sufficiency standard for
15 Hawaii would be an excellent tool for lawmakers, the business
16 and education community, and the nonprofit sector to improve



1 efforts to help lower income families reach economic
2 sufficiency.

3 The purpose of this Act is to establish and update
4 biennially 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~~] these products
4 to consumers; and make [~~such~~] grants or contracts as
5 may be necessary or advisable to accomplish the
6 foregoing;

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

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



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

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



1 (5) Tourism research and statistics. The department shall
2 maintain a program of research and statistics for the
3 purpose of:

4 (A) Measuring and analyzing tourism trends;

5 (B) Providing information and research to assist in
6 the development and implementation of state
7 tourism policy;

8 (C) Encouraging and arranging for the conduct of
9 tourism research and information development
10 through voluntary means or through contractual
11 services with qualified agencies, firms, or
12 persons; and

13 (D) Providing tourism information to policy makers,
14 the public, and the visitor industry. This
15 includes:

16 (i) Collecting and publishing visitor-related
17 data including visitor arrivals, visitor
18 characteristics and expenditures;

19 (ii) Collecting and publishing hotel-related
20 statistics including the number of units
21 available, occupancy rates, and room rates;



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

16 (6) Self-sufficiency standard. The department shall
17 establish and update biennially a self-sufficiency
18 standard that shall incorporate existing methods of
19 calculation, and shall reflect, at minimum, costs
20 relating to housing, food, child care, transportation,
21 health care, clothing and household expenses, federal



1 and state tax obligations, family size, children's
2 ages, geography, and number of household wage earners.

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

5 SECTION 3. The department of business, economic
6 development, and tourism shall report to the legislature with
7 the self-sufficiency standard no later than twenty days prior to
8 the convening of the regular session of 2009, and every odd-
9 numbered year thereafter.

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

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



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes of
3 this Act.

4 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

Economic Self-sufficiency Standard

Description:

Requires the department of business, economic development, and tourism to establish, update biennially, and define the self-sufficiency standard. (SB2840 SD2)

