

JAN 22 2008

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY
OF HAWAII.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that universities that
2 generate new knowledge and discoveries can be important
3 contributors in developing a state's technology-based economy.
4 For the university to make that contribution there must be
5 effective mechanisms to move innovation into the marketplace.
6 At the University of Hawaii, commercialization assistance is
7 provided by the office of technology transfer and economic
8 development. Activities include securing patents, seeking
9 licensing opportunities, and assisting university researchers to
10 transform ideas and innovations into products ready for
11 commercialization.

12 The legislature further finds that the effectiveness of the
13 office of technology transfer and economic development in
14 fulfilling its mandate could be increased by collaboration with
15 experts and funding from the private sector. The purpose of
16 this Act is to increase commercialization of University of
17 Hawaii discoveries by providing funds to the department of

S.B. NO. 2996

1 business, economic development, and tourism to enter into a
2 partnership with a qualified and experienced private sector
3 entity to work with the office of technology transfer and
4 economic development.

5 This partnership will provide the University of Hawaii with
6 resources and expertise to increase the number of discoveries
7 disclosed and the number of partnerships and arrangements to
8 commercialize those discoveries. The department of business,
9 economic development, and tourism, the private sector partner,
10 and the University of Hawaii will contribute to this
11 commercialization joint venture; and the private sector partner
12 and the University of Hawaii will share in the return of their
13 efforts.

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000, or so much
16 as may be necessary, for fiscal year 2008-2009, to carry out the
17 purposes of this Act. The sum appropriated shall be expended by
18 the department of business, economic development, and tourism.

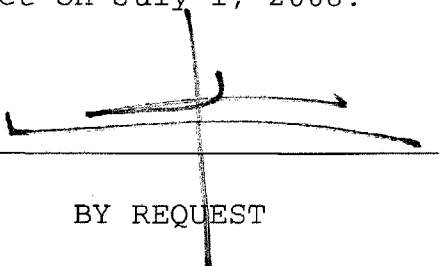
19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

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INTRODUCED BY:



BY REQUEST

Report Title:

Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development;
University of Hawaii.

Description:

Appropriate \$100,000 to the department of business, economic development, and tourism to enter into a partnership with a qualified private entity to assist the office of technology transfer and economic development to accelerate commercialization of University of Hawaii discoveries.

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PARTNERSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

PURPOSE: To increase commercialization of University of Hawaii discoveries by providing funds to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to enter into a partnership with a qualified and experienced private sector entity to work with the Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development.

MEANS: Appropriation to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

JUSTIFICATION: Strong innovation-based economies rely heavily on the universities in their communities to generate discoveries that can be commercialized through licensing or the creation of new businesses. The University of Hawaii has strengths in many disciplines which could be translated into new economic activity. The Office of Technology Transfer and Economic Development would benefit from additional resources in the form of additional State funding combined with funding and expertise from the private sector to accelerate their commercialization efforts.

Impact on the public: Increased numbers of licensing agreements and start-up companies based on discoveries at the University of Hawaii would increase revenues directly to the University and accelerate the movement of innovation into the marketplace, improving Hawaii's innovation-based economy.

Impact on the department and other agencies: The proposal would support the department's efforts to promote economic development

based on innovation and human capital. Accelerated commercialization of University discoveries would benefit the University by generating licensing, royalty and equity revenues and enhancing its reputation as a major research university and its ability to attract additional research funds and world-class faculty.

GENERAL FUND: \$100,000.00

OTHER FUNDS: Matching private sector funds.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: BED-120

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: University of Hawaii

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2008