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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 201-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3           "~~§~~201-17~~§~~ **Office of international affairs;**

4 **established.** (a) There is established, within the department  
5 of business, economic development, and tourism, an office of  
6 international affairs.

7           (b) The office shall:

8           (1) Develop policies that promote and strengthen relations  
9           with other countries in the areas of international  
10           business, economy, culture, and the arts;

11           (2) Develop policies that promote transportation between,  
12           and tourism with, other countries;

13           (3) Develop and promote international telecommunications  
14           and high technology exchanges;

15           (4) Encourage the development of international sister-city  
16           programs, pairing Hawaii cities with cities around the



**PROPOSED S.B. NO. 520**  
S.D. 1

1 globe for artistic, cultural, economic, educational,  
2 and faith-based exchanges;

3 (5) Develop and promote Hawaii as the economic, trade,  
4 commerce, transportation, banking, and tourism hub of  
5 the Pacific;

6 (6) Develop an international affairs and peace education  
7 curriculum that includes studies of international  
8 affairs and peace initiatives and takes a proactive,  
9 strategic approach to the development of policies that  
10 promote the prevention of national and international  
11 conflict, nonviolent intervention, mediation, peaceful  
12 resolution of conflict, and structured mediation of  
13 conflict; [~~and~~]

14 (7) Provide for exchanges of individuals between Hawaii  
15 and other nations to develop international and peace-  
16 based initiatives[-];

17 (8) Support the activities of the peace mission committee  
18 pursuant to subsection (d); and

19 (9) Support the activities commemorating Peace Day  
20 pursuant to section 8-16.

21 (c) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if any  
22 of the responsibilities or duties of the office of international



# PROPOSED

1 affairs under this section overlap with the responsibilities or  
2 duties of another agency or authority under this chapter, the  
3 office of international affairs shall have exclusive  
4 jurisdiction and authority over those responsibilities and  
5 duties.

6 (d) There is established a committee to be known as the  
7 peace mission committee, which shall be placed within the office  
8 of international affairs for administrative purposes. The  
9 purpose of the peace mission committee shall be to plan and  
10 develop:

11 (1) Peace missions to other nations and international  
12 organizations, particularly with nations and  
13 organizations that are engaged in conflict with the  
14 United States;

15 (2) Cultural exchange and goodwill programs with other  
16 nations' education, business, and community sectors;  
17 and

18 (3) Charitable donation programs with other nations,  
19 provided that the programs do not violate any treaties  
20 or international policies involving the United States.

21 The committee shall be a permanent body within the  
22 department of business, economic development, and tourism. The



1 committee shall consist of seven members who shall be appointed,  
2 without regard to section 26-34. The committee members shall  
3 include members from the private, public, community at large,  
4 and academic sectors. The speaker of the house of  
5 representatives shall select two members. The president of the  
6 senate shall select two members. The governor shall select  
7 three members.

8 The members shall not receive compensation for their  
9 services but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses,  
10 including travel expenses, incurred in the performance of their  
11 duties under this subsection. Any member of the committee shall  
12 be immune from civil liability, as provided for under section  
13 26-35.5.

14 In its efforts to conduct peace missions, initiate cultural  
15 exchange and goodwill programs, and develop charitable donation  
16 programs with other nations and international organizations, the  
17 committee may seek grants from public and private sources and  
18 may accept donations to finance its projects, programs, and  
19 activities. The director of business, economic development, and  
20 tourism may direct any or as many employees the director deems  
21 appropriate to staff the committee.



**PROPOSED****S.B. NO. 520  
S.D. 1**

1       The committee shall submit a written report of its  
2       activities on an annual basis to the legislature no later than  
3       twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session,  
4       beginning with the regular session of 2009."

5           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to be used  
8 by the peace mission committee for the purposes of this Act.

9           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
10 business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes of  
11 this Act.

12           SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



# PROPOSED

S.B. NO. 520  
S.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Office of International Affairs; Peace Mission Committee

**Description:**

Establishes a peace mission committee within the office of international affairs to plan and implement peace missions to other nations and organizations; appropriates funds. (SD1)

