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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the mission of the  
2 University of Hawaii at Hilo has evolved and expanded in recent  
3 years from a principally undergraduate teaching institution to  
4 one with a significant research focus on science, technology,  
5 engineering, and mathematics. The university accordingly  
6 requires the formal establishment of a focal point for the  
7 provision, strategic leveraging, and coordination of  
8 administrative support services necessary to facilitate the  
9 growth and expansion of research efforts at the university as  
10 well as the successful application and award of grant funds and  
11 other extramural funds to support those research efforts, the  
12 research experiences of students, and the stimulation of science  
13 and technology businesses in the State.

14           SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new subpart to part IV to be appropriately  
16 designated and to read as follows:

17           "           . Research and Economic Development; Vice Chancellor

1           §304A- Vice chancellor for research and economic  
2 development at the University of Hawaii at Hilo; established.

3           (a) There shall be established at the University of Hawaii at  
4 Hilo an office of the vice chancellor for research and economic  
5 development.

6           (b) The office shall serve as the overarching  
7 institutional focal point for the coordination of all  
8 undergraduate and graduate science, technology, engineering, and  
9 mathematics mentorship programs and the integration of ongoing  
10 and future research projects. A mission of the office shall be  
11 to build synergy between the many capacity-building and  
12 mentorship programs and support available to science,  
13 technology, engineering, and mathematics majors at the  
14 University of Hawaii at Hilo. A further mission of the office  
15 shall be to increase the participation of underrepresented  
16 cultural, socio-economic, and ethnic groups from the Pacific  
17 islands in undergraduate and graduate education in science,  
18 technology, engineering, and mathematics.

19           (c) The office shall be responsible for all budgeting and  
20 fiscal aspects of research grants and shall allow both faculty  
21 and students to focus their efforts more directly on their  
22 research, education, and training. The office shall also be

1 responsible for leading the efforts of the University of Hawaii  
2 at Hilo in science and technology economic development,  
3 encourage interdisciplinary activities, and foster programs that  
4 promote the science and technology-related economic progress of  
5 the State.

6 (d) The office shall be under the direction of the  
7 University of Hawaii at Hilo vice chancellor for research and  
8 economic development and may include those administrative and  
9 technical staff and faculty positions that are within the office  
10 budget capacities and needed to fulfill its mission."

11 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

**Report Title:**

UH Hilo; Chancellor

**Description:**

Establishes the office of the vice chancellor for research and economic development at the University of Hawaii at Hilo. (SD1)