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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that innovation is an  
2 essential driver of economic growth and future competitiveness.  
3 A thriving innovation economy promotes economic growth, fosters  
4 new technologies, creates jobs, and allows the United States to  
5 maintain its status as the leader in the global marketplace.  
6 States across the nation and the Obama administration have  
7 committed to renewing the country's focus on innovation as a  
8 means of fostering economic growth and creating high-wage jobs  
9 throughout the nation.

10           In Hawaii, the president of the University of Hawaii system  
11 recently unveiled recommendations of a draft report authored by  
12 the Advisory Council on Hawaii Innovation and Technology  
13 Advancement that described how the University of Hawaii can  
14 build private sector high-wage jobs and partnerships. Report  
15 recommendations included identifying research as an industry in  
16 Hawaii; establishing the Hawaii Innovation Technology Exchange  
17 Institute; encouraging collaboration by integrating  
18 entrepreneurship into the university's curriculum; and



1 identifying security, sustainability, energy, agriculture, data  
2 analytics, and Asian-Pacific health as key areas for  
3 capitalizing on commercialization opportunities for Hawaii.

4 In addition, in 2010, the senate committee on economic  
5 development and technology and the house committee on economic  
6 revitalization, business, and military affairs convened an  
7 informal small business discussion group to address the most  
8 critical issues facing the small business sectors within  
9 Hawaii's economy. Representatives from The Chamber of Commerce  
10 of Hawaii, construction and trades industries, community  
11 nonprofits, the agricultural sector, food and restaurant  
12 industries, retailing, the science and technology sector, the  
13 commercial transportation industry, and interested stakeholders  
14 developed a package of bills that addresses the most pressing  
15 problems facing Hawaii's small business community.

16 The purpose of this Act is to support the findings of the  
17 small business working group and the recommendations proposed by  
18 the Advisory Council on Hawaii Innovation and Technology  
19 Advancement regarding regulatory requirements faced by  
20 businesses engaged in biotechnology research by establishing a  
21 task force to:



- 1           (1) Identify barriers that Hawaii businesses and  
2           university professors face in developing  
3           entrepreneurial business models in biotechnology; and  
4           (2) Recommend specific actions to address these barriers.

5           SECTION 2. (a) There is established a biotechnology task  
6 force within the University of Hawaii for administrative  
7 purposes only. The task force shall assess barriers faced by  
8 businesses engaged in biotechnology research or other  
9 activities, and develop recommendations and any legislation  
10 required to expedite permit processing for the specialized needs  
11 of biotechnology businesses, including importation of organisms  
12 or other items that are typically classified as invasive species  
13 or hazardous in some manner.

14           (b) The task force shall include but not be limited to  
15 representatives from the:

- 16           (1) University of Hawaii system, including the college of  
17           tropical agriculture and human resources, John A.  
18           Burns school of medicine, and department of  
19           oceanography;  
20           (2) Department of agriculture;  
21           (3) Department of land and natural resources;  
22           (4) Department of health;



- 1 (5) Hawaii Science and Technology Council; and  
2 (6) Biotechnology industry businesses, including  
3 agricultural biotechnology, life  
4 sciences/biotechnology, and bioenergy.

5 The representative from the University of Hawaii college of  
6 tropical agriculture and human resources shall serve as chair of  
7 the task force.

8 (c) The task force shall report its findings and  
9 recommendations to the legislature, including proposed  
10 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
11 the regular session of 2012.

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 for  
15 the operations of the biotechnology task force.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of  
17 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



**Report Title:**

Biotechnology; Task Force; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a task force to identify barriers that Hawaii businesses and university professors face in developing entrepreneurial business models in biotechnology, and to recommend specific actions to address these barriers. Effective July 1, 2112. (SB776 HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

