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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII TOURISM AUTHORITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 201B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4           "§201B- Grants. (a) Every request for the award of a  
5 grant from the authority for the development of tourism products  
6 or programs shall be submitted to the authority on an  
7 application form provided by the authority, which shall contain:

8           (1) A statement of the purpose of the product or program  
9           to be funded by the grant;

10           (2) A written description of the product or program;

11           (3) Financial information regarding the product or  
12           program;

13           (4) If the applicant is an organization, personnel  
14           position salaries; and

15           (5) Any other information required by the authority.

16           (b) The authority shall review each grant application to  
17 determine the efficiency and the effectiveness of the proposed  
18 product or program in achieving the authority's goals and



1 objectives in implementing the state tourism policy. The review  
2 shall be based upon an analysis of the application in terms of  
3 the objectives to be achieved, the need in the community for the  
4 product or program, the quality of the proposed product or  
5 program, the ability of the applicant to produce the proposed  
6 product or program, and the benefits to be provided by the  
7 proposed product or program in comparison to the estimated  
8 costs.

9 (c) Upon approval of an application, the authority shall  
10 enter into a grant agreement with the applicant. Agreements  
11 shall be executed in accordance with rules adopted by the  
12 authority.

13 (d) Every grant awarded by the authority shall be  
14 monitored by the authority to ensure compliance with the  
15 provisions of the grant agreement and to determine whether the  
16 grant attained the intended results in the manner contemplated.

17 (e) No grant awarded pursuant to this section shall be  
18 subject to chapter 42F.

19 (f) As used in this section, "grant" means an award of  
20 funds by the authority to support the activities of the  
21 recipient that are consistent with the purposes of this  
22 chapter."



1 SECTION 2. Section 201B-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3 "(a) Except as otherwise limited by this chapter, the  
4 authority may:

5 (1) Sue and be sued;

6 (2) Have a seal and alter the same at pleasure;

7 (3) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
8 make and execute contracts and all other instruments  
9 necessary or convenient for the exercise of its powers  
10 and functions under this chapter; provided that the  
11 authority may enter into contracts and agreements for  
12 a period of up to five years, subject to the  
13 availability of funds; and provided further that the  
14 authority may enter into agreements for the use of the  
15 convention center facility for a period of up to ten  
16 years;

17 (4) Make and alter bylaws for its organization and  
18 internal management;

19 (5) Unless otherwise provided in this chapter, adopt rules  
20 in accordance with chapter 91 with respect to its  
21 projects, operations, properties, and facilities;



- 1 (6) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
2 represent the authority in communications with the  
3 governor and the legislature;
- 4 (7) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
5 provide for the appointment of officers, agents, a  
6 sports coordinator, and employees, subject to the  
7 approval of the board, prescribing their duties and  
8 qualifications, and fixing their salaries, without  
9 regard to chapters 76 and 78, if there is no  
10 anticipated revenue shortfall in the tourism special  
11 fund and funds have been appropriated by the  
12 legislature and allotted as provided by law;
- 13 (8) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
14 purchase supplies, equipment, or furniture;
- 15 (9) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
16 allocate the space or spaces that are to be occupied  
17 by the authority and appropriate staff;
- 18 (10) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
19 engage the services of qualified persons to implement  
20 the State's tourism marketing plan or portions thereof  
21 as determined by the authority;



- 1           (11) Through its president and chief executive officer,  
2           engage the services of consultants on a contractual  
3           basis for rendering professional and technical  
4           assistance and advice;
- 5           (12) Procure insurance against any loss in connection with  
6           its property and other assets and operations in  
7           amounts and from insurers as it deems desirable;
- 8           (13) Contract for or accept revenues, compensation,  
9           proceeds, and gifts or grants in any form from any  
10          public agency or any other source, including any  
11          revenues or proceeds arising from the operation or use  
12          of the convention center;
- 13          (14) Develop, coordinate, and implement state policies and  
14          directions for tourism and related activities taking  
15          into account the economic, social, and physical  
16          impacts of tourism on the State and its natural  
17          resources infrastructure; provided that the authority  
18          shall support the efforts of other state and county  
19          departments or agencies to manage, improve, and  
20          protect Hawaii's natural environment and areas  
21          frequented by visitors;



- 1 (15) Have a permanent, strong focus on marketing and  
2 promotion;
- 3 (16) Conduct market development-related research as  
4 necessary;
- 5 (17) Coordinate all agencies and advise the private sector  
6 in the development of tourism-related activities and  
7 resources;
- 8 (18) Work to eliminate or reduce barriers to travel to  
9 provide a positive and competitive business  
10 environment, including coordinating with the  
11 department of transportation on issues affecting  
12 airlines and air route development;
- 13 (19) Market and promote sports-related activities and  
14 events;
- 15 (20) [~~Coordinate~~] Award grants pursuant to section 201B-  
16 and coordinate the development of [~~new~~] tourism  
17 products and programs with the counties and other  
18 persons in the public sector and private sector,  
19 including the development of sports, culture, health  
20 and wellness, education, technology, agriculture, and  
21 nature tourism;



- 1 (21) Establish a public information and educational program  
2 to inform the public of tourism and tourism-related  
3 problems;
- 4 (22) Encourage the development of tourism educational,  
5 training, and career counseling programs;
- 6 (23) Establish a program to monitor, investigate, and  
7 respond to complaints about problems resulting  
8 directly or indirectly from the tourism industry and  
9 taking appropriate action as necessary;
- 10 (24) Develop and implement emergency measures to respond to  
11 any adverse effects on the tourism industry, pursuant  
12 to section 201B-9;
- 13 (25) Set and collect rents, fees, charges, or other  
14 payments for the lease, use, occupancy, or disposition  
15 of the convention center facility without regard to  
16 chapter 91;
- 17 (26) Notwithstanding chapter 171, acquire, lease as lessee  
18 or lessor, own, rent, hold, and dispose of the  
19 convention center facility in the exercise of its  
20 powers and the performance of its duties under this  
21 chapter; and



1       (27) Acquire by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and develop,  
2               construct, operate, own, manage, repair, reconstruct,  
3               enlarge, or otherwise effectuate, either directly or  
4               through developers, a convention center facility."

5       SECTION 3. Section 201B-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

7       "(b) The authority may delegate to staff the  
8 responsibility for soliciting, awarding, and executing  
9 agreements and contracts, and monitoring and facilitating any  
10 and all functions developed in accordance with subsection (a)."

11       SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.





**Report Title:**

Hawaii Tourism Authority; Grants

**Description:**

Authorizes the Hawaii Tourism Authority to enter into grant agreements for the development of visitor industry products and programs. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB332 HD1)

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

