

JAN 23 2015

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE ECONOMY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a study of the
2 State's economic conditions and prospects must be conducted in
3 an objective manner to address serious challenges facing the
4 State, including the overall high cost of living and doing
5 business in the State, the high costs of housing and
6 consumables, outward migration of skilled and knowledgeable
7 workers, and outward investment.

8 In view of the heightened competitiveness facing individual
9 states and countries, it is critical that the State's leaders
10 have a clear understanding of the global forces that influence
11 the State's economy, the State's relative competitiveness, and
12 policies and options that are available for placing the State on
13 an optimal development path.

14 The purpose of this Act is to authorize an independent
15 study and analysis of Hawaii's economy, including
16 recommendations for public policy changes that will begin to



1 address the cost of living, affordability, and quality of life
2 issues that Hawaii residents face.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2016-2017 for an independent study and analysis of Hawaii's
8 economy, including recommendations for public policy changes
9 that will begin to address the cost of living, affordability,
10 and quality of life issues that Hawaii residents face.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
12 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes
13 of this Act; provided that the department shall contract with an
14 out-of-state entity to conduct the study.

15 SECTION 3. The department of business, economic
16 development, and tourism shall deliver the completed study and
17 analysis prepared by the contracted entity to the legislature no
18 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
19 session of 2016.

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1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Shannon Chun Oakland*



S.B. NO. 482

Report Title:

State Economy; Independent Study; Appropriation

Description:

Authorizes and appropriates funds for an independent study and analysis of Hawaii's economy, including recommendations for public policy changes that will begin to address the cost of living, affordability, and quality of life issues that Hawaii residents face.

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