
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE TRANSIENT ACCOMMODATIONS TAX.

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

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to allocate funds
2 from transient accommodations tax revenues to the Hawaii tourism
3 authority for the implementation of initiatives, in conjunction
4 with the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, to address
5 homelessness in tourist and resort areas.

6 SECTION 2. Section 237D-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

8 "(b) Except for the revenues collected pursuant to section
9 237D-2(e), revenues collected under this chapter shall be
10 distributed in the following priority, with the excess revenues
11 to be deposited into the general fund:

12 (1) \$1,500,000 shall be allocated to the Turtle Bay
13 conservation easement special fund beginning July 1,
14 2015, for the reimbursement to the state general fund
15 of debt service on reimbursable general obligation
16 bonds, including ongoing expenses related to the
17 issuance of the bonds, the proceeds of which were used



1 to acquire the conservation easement and other real
2 property interests in Turtle Bay, Oahu, for the
3 protection, preservation, and enhancement of natural
4 resources important to the State, until the bonds are
5 fully amortized;

6 (2) \$16,500,000 shall be allocated to the convention
7 center enterprise special fund established under
8 section 201B-8;

9 (3) \$79,000,000 shall be allocated to the tourism special
10 fund established under section 201B-11; provided that:

11 (A) Beginning on July 1, 2012, and ending on June 30,
12 2015, \$2,000,000 shall be expended from the
13 tourism special fund for development and
14 implementation of initiatives to take advantage
15 of expanded visa programs and increased travel
16 opportunities for international visitors to
17 Hawaii;

18 (B) Of the \$79,000,000 allocated:

19 (i) \$1,000,000 shall be allocated for the
20 operation of a Hawaiian center and the
21 museum of Hawaiian music and dance; and



1 (ii) 0.5 per cent of the \$79,000,000 shall be
2 transferred to a sub-account in the tourism
3 special fund to provide funding for a safety
4 and security budget, in accordance with the
5 Hawaii tourism strategic plan 2005-2015; and

6 (C) Of the revenues remaining in the tourism special
7 fund after revenues have been deposited as
8 provided in this paragraph and except for any sum
9 authorized by the legislature for expenditure
10 from revenues subject to this paragraph,
11 beginning July 1, 2007, funds shall be deposited
12 into the tourism emergency special fund,
13 established in section 201B-10, in a manner
14 sufficient to maintain a fund balance of
15 \$5,000,000 in the tourism emergency special fund;

16 (4) \$103,000,000 shall be allocated as follows: Kauai
17 county shall receive 14.5 per cent, Hawaii county
18 shall receive 18.6 per cent, city and county of
19 Honolulu shall receive 44.1 per cent, and Maui county
20 shall receive 22.8 per cent; provided that commencing
21 with fiscal year 2018-2019, a sum that represents the

1 difference between a county public employer's annual
2 required contribution for the separate trust fund
3 established under section 87A-42 and the amount of the
4 county public employer's contributions into that trust
5 fund shall be retained by the state director of
6 finance and deposited to the credit of the county
7 public employer's annual required contribution into
8 that trust fund in each fiscal year, as provided in
9 section 87A-42, if the respective county fails to
10 remit the total amount of the county's required annual
11 contributions, as required under section 87A-43; [~~and~~]

12 (5) \$3,000,000 shall be allocated to the special land and
13 development fund established under section 171-19;
14 provided that the allocation shall be expended in
15 accordance with the Hawaii tourism authority strategic
16 plan for:

- 17 (A) The protection, preservation, maintenance, and
18 enhancement of natural resources, including
19 beaches, important to the visitor industry;
- 20 (B) Planning, construction, and repair of facilities;
- 21 and



1 (C) Operation and maintenance costs of public lands,
2 including beaches, connected with enhancing the
3 visitor experience [-]; and

4 (6) Beginning on July 1, 2020, \$1,500,000 shall be
5 allocated to the tourism special fund established by
6 section 201B-11; provided that the Hawaii tourism
7 authority shall use the funds, in conjunction with the
8 Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association, to address
9 homelessness in tourist and resort areas; provided
10 further that no funds shall be released unless matched
11 dollar-for-dollar by the private sector.

12 All transient accommodations taxes shall be paid into the
13 state treasury each month within ten days after collection and
14 shall be kept by the state director of finance in special
15 accounts for distribution as provided in this subsection.

16 As used in this subsection, "fiscal year" means the twelve-
17 month period beginning on July 1 of a calendar year and ending
18 on June 30 of the following calendar year."

19 SECTION 3. The Hawaii tourism authority shall submit a
20 report to the legislature at least twenty days prior to the
21 convening of the regular session of 2021, which shall include:



1 (1) The current status of any initiative implemented in
2 conjunction with the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism
3 Association during the three-year period prior to the
4 date of the report to address homelessness in tourist
5 and resort areas, including the costs thereof, source
6 of funding, and participating entities; and

7 (2) The current status of any plans to implement future
8 initiatives, in conjunction with the Hawaii Lodging
9 and Tourism Association, to address homelessness in
10 tourist and resort areas, including the estimated
11 costs thereof, potential sources of funding other than
12 legislative appropriations, and anticipated
13 participating entities.

14 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the tourism
15 special fund the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much thereof as may be
16 necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the Hawaii tourism
17 authority, in conjunction with the Hawaii Lodging and Tourism
18 Association, to address homelessness in tourist and resort
19 areas; provided that no funds shall be made available unless
20 matched dollar-for-dollar by the private sector.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
2 tourism authority for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

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INTRODUCED BY:

[Signature]

[Signature]
Amy Ramos

[Signature]
De Ht

[Signature]

[Signature]
Doug Carnes

[Signature]
Amy M. [Signature]

[Signature]
Ch Todd

[Signature]
Val [Signature]

[Signature]
[Signature]
Rich [Signature]

[Signature]



H.B. NO. 1945

Report Title:

Transient Accommodations; Tax Revenue Allocation; Hawaii Tourism Authority; Homelessness; Appropriation

Description:

Allocates TAT revenues into the tourism special fund and appropriates funds for the Hawaii tourism authority (HTA) and Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association to address homelessness in tourist and resort areas, subject to private matching funds. Requires HTA to report to the 2021 legislature.

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

