

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

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SUBJECT: INCOME, GENERAL EXCISE, MISCELLANEOUS, Public Disclosure of Credit Recipients

BILL NUMBER: SB 3007, SD-2

INTRODUCED BY: Senate Committee on Ways & Means

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to make a public disclosure identifying the names of the taxpayers who are receiving tax credits and the total amount of tax credit received for specific economic activities.

SYNOPSIS: Adds a new section to chapter 201, HRS, requiring DBEDT to publicly identify the taxpayers receiving any of the following tax credits: (1) the motion picture, digital media, and film production income tax credit (section 235-17, HRS); (2) the tax credit for research activities (section 235-110.91, HRS); and (3) credits under the enterprise zone program (chapter 209E, HRS).

EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/1/2050.

STAFF COMMENTS: Current law, including sections 235-116 and 237-34, HRS, prohibits the disclosure of tax return information by any person or any officer or employee of the State. Violation of the law is punishable as a class C felony. If the Legislature decides, as a policy matter, that it is better to make such a public disclosure, then appropriate amendments need to be made to the tax return confidentiality statutes to allow for the disclosure here contemplated.

Digested 3/10/2020