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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AEROSPACE DEVELOPMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the aerospace and  
2 aeronautics fields have played a pivotal role in expanding and  
3 diversifying the national economy by forging new inroads to  
4 scientific discovery, advancing national engineering and  
5 manufacturing expertise, pioneering innovations in  
6 communications and computer technologies, enhancing surveillance  
7 of our home planet, and enabling a better understanding of  
8 weather systems and climate change. Today, the aerospace and  
9 aeronautics industries hold great potential to enable future  
10 innovation in science and technology. Hawaii's strategic  
11 near-equatorial location, substantial telemetry, accessible  
12 space surveillance, Moon- and Mars-like terrain, resident  
13 expertise in a broad range of aerospace- and aeronautic-related  
14 technologies, and long-standing ties with space-faring nations  
15 throughout the Asia-Pacific region are strategic assets and  
16 capabilities. These can be leveraged to help realize  
17 humankind's full potential in space and to establish the State



1 as a major contributor to, and beneficiary of, global space  
2 enterprise. Historically, Hawaii has played a seminal role in  
3 developing the nation's space program through astronaut training  
4 and the development of world-class observatories. Today, Hawaii  
5 continues to support national space efforts through a wide range  
6 of aerospace-related activities on all major islands, including  
7 the Mauna Kea science reserve on the island of Hawaii, the Air  
8 Force Maui optical and supercomputing observatory on the island  
9 of Maui, the University of Hawaii's institute for astronomy and  
10 Hawaii institute for geophysics and planetology on the island of  
11 Oahu, and the Pacific missile range facility on the island of  
12 Kauai.

13 The legislature further finds that establishing the Hawaii  
14 aerospace and aeronautics development program will provide a  
15 focal point within the state government to facilitate dialogue  
16 and coordination among Hawaii's public, private, and academic  
17 sectors, and between state-based entities and public and private  
18 overseas organizations, and to promote the growth and  
19 diversification of Hawaii's aerospace and aeronautics  
20 industries. By establishing the aerospace and aeronautics  
21 development program, the State can more efficiently direct its



1 resources to address the needs of the aerospace and aeronautics  
2 fields.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish the  
4 aerospace and aeronautics development program within the Hawaii  
5 technology development corporation.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 206M, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
8 to read as follows:

9 **"PART . AEROSPACE AND AERONAUTICS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

10 **§206M- Definitions.** As used in this part:

11 "Director" means the director of the aerospace and  
12 aeronautics development program.

13 "Program" means the aerospace and aeronautics development  
14 program.

15 **§206M- Aerospace and aeronautics development program;**  
16 **establishment.** (a) There is established an aerospace and  
17 aeronautics development program within the Hawaii technology  
18 development corporation.

19 (b) The director shall have experience, knowledge, and  
20 expertise in space-related activities and development. The



1 director shall be nominated and appointed by the governor  
2 without regard to chapter 76.

3 (c) The director shall hire staff as necessary to carry  
4 out the purposes of this part.

5 (d) The director and employees of the program shall be  
6 included in any benefit program generally applicable to the  
7 officers and employees of the State.

8 **§206M- Director; powers and duties.** In addition to any  
9 other powers and duties provided in this part, the director  
10 shall:

11 (1) Oversee, supervise, and direct the planning,  
12 evaluation, and coordination of space-related  
13 activities and identify and promote opportunities for  
14 expanding and diversifying aerospace-related  
15 industries in the State, including:

- 16 (A) Applied optics;
- 17 (B) Astronomy and astrophysics;
- 18 (C) Aviation;
- 19 (D) Dual-use technology;
- 20 (E) Environmental monitoring;
- 21 (F) Meteorology;



- 1 (G) Remote sensing; and
- 2 (H) Robotics and unmanned aerial vehicles, including
- 3 drones, satellite communications, and commercial
- 4 space launch;
- 5 (2) Initiate discussions for private and international
- 6 involvement in space-related activities in the State;
- 7 (3) Serve as a catalyst in forging partnerships between
- 8 the University of Hawaii and businesses in the State
- 9 to:
- 10 (A) Improve the relevance and quality of university
- 11 training to support the growth and
- 12 diversification of Hawaii's aerospace industry;
- 13 (B) Identify entrepreneurial opportunities to
- 14 commercialize basic research; and
- 15 (C) Facilitate the transfer of technology from the
- 16 University of Hawaii to the private sector to
- 17 expedite commercialization;
- 18 (4) Assist the University of Hawaii, local companies,
- 19 research institutions, and other stakeholders in
- 20 establishing partnerships with corporate, government,



- 1           and university entities overseas that can promote and  
2           enhance the State's aerospace industry;
- 3           (5) Leverage aerospace and related technological  
4           capabilities in the State's academic, public, and  
5           private sectors to enhance the State's ability to  
6           procure federal and private research and development  
7           grants, and to increase the State's competitiveness in  
8           national and global aerospace markets;
- 9           (6) Promote innovative education and workforce development  
10          programs that will enhance public awareness of the  
11          State's aerospace potential and enable residents to  
12          pursue employment in Hawaii's aerospace industry;
- 13          (7) Monitor national and global trends in the aerospace  
14          industry and recommend programs and policies to  
15          support aerospace industry development statewide;
- 16          (8) Serve as a central point of contact to respond to  
17          inquiries from inside and outside the State concerning  
18          Hawaii's aerospace-related interests and activities;
- 19          (9) Review the effectiveness of present publications,  
20          pamphlets, and other sources of information produced



- 1 and distributed by the State about Hawaii's space-  
2 related activities;
- 3 (10) Serve as a clearinghouse for information on Hawaii's  
4 space-related activities, including the activities of  
5 the University of Hawaii and federal agencies located  
6 in Hawaii;
- 7 (11) Target existing businesses that can provide important  
8 products or services to the space industry to support  
9 the expansion of space-related businesses in Hawaii;
- 10 (12) Increase and maintain contact with the National  
11 Aeronautics and Space Administration and other federal  
12 agencies and facilities;
- 13 (13) Institute procedures by which citizens can offer input  
14 on proposed space facilities development at the  
15 earliest possible point in the development process;
- 16 (14) Adopt, amend, and repeal rules, pursuant to  
17 chapter 91, as necessary to carry out this part;
- 18 (15) Contract for services as necessary for the purposes of  
19 this part; and
- 20 (16) Do all other things necessary to carry out the  
21 purposes of this part.



1           **§206M-       Space vehicles; prohibitions.** The program shall  
2 not authorize or facilitate the launching into space from the  
3 State's land or ocean territory any vehicle that carries weapons  
4 of destruction or nuclear waste materials, or that uses  
5 radioactive materials as a power source."

6           SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                or so  
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
10 year 2024-2025 for the establishment of the aerospace and  
11 aeronautics development program within the Hawaii technology  
12 development corporation.

13           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
14 technology development corporation for the purposes of this Act.

15           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.





**Report Title:**

HTDC; Aerospace and Aeronautics Development Program;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Aerospace and Aeronautics Development Program  
within the Hawaii Technology Development Corporation.  
Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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