

ACT 257

H.B. NO. 15

A Bill for an Act Relating to Computers.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a "software industry" would be beneficial for the State of Hawaii. A software industry would help to diversify the economy, create higher paying jobs, and position Hawaii as a high technology leader in the Pacific. Software development is considered a "clean" industry, and therefore, would not have the negative spin-off effects associated with other economic development initiatives. Although there is strong consensus on the idea of developing a software industry, there is no strategic plan to nurture its development.

The purpose of this Act is to encourage the development of a software industry directed at the market for customized applications development in the United States and elsewhere.

SECTION 2. The high technology development corporation, working in consultation with the department of budget and finance, shall establish a plan for the development of a software industry in Hawaii. The plan shall consider state laws and policies pertaining to contracts for computer software.

The corporation may conduct workshops for local software companies to review the plan draft and discuss relevant development activities, such as export markets and offshore programming and data entry services.

The corporation shall submit its findings, recommendations, and plan to the legislature at least twenty days prior to the convening of the 1990 regular session.

SECTION 3. In accordance with Section 9 of Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii and sections 37-91 and 37-93, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the appropriation contained in this Act will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 1989-1990 to be exceeded by \$50,000, or 0.0021 per cent. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure ceiling are that the appropriation made in this Act are necessary to serve the public interest; to meet the need provided for by this Act, and to encourage the development of a software industry which is directed at the market for customized applications development in the United States and elsewhere.

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1989-1990, to carry out the purposes of this Act. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of business and economic development for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1989.

(Approved June 8, 1989.)