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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that on November 1, 1972,  
2 business leaders of Hawaii and Japan met in Honolulu to  
3 establish the Japan-Hawaii economic council. Their primary  
4 motivations were to further economic relations between Japan and  
5 the United States and the recognition of Hawaii's important role  
6 in that regard. For nearly thirty years, hundreds of business  
7 and government leaders from Japan and Hawaii met at annual  
8 meetings, alternating between Hawaii and Japan, to discuss and  
9 improve business, tourism, investment, education, and other  
10 mutually beneficial interests. These meetings resulted in  
11 improving relations, increasing cultural understandings,  
12 reducing trade restrictions, and improving the economies of  
13 Japan, Hawaii, and the United States.

14           The legislature finds that relations between China and  
15 Hawaii today are similar to those that began to develop between  
16 Japan and Hawaii in the 1960's and 1970's. The legislature  
17 further finds that establishment of a similar China-Hawaii



1 economic council will provide an invaluable opportunity to  
2 further economic relations between Hawaii and China, including  
3 providing a better understanding of cultural differences,  
4 facilitating investment, increasing tourism, and promoting  
5 trade.

6 The purpose of this Act is to establish the China-Hawaii  
7 economic council to further economic relations between China and  
8 Hawaii.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
11 and to read as follows:

12 "§201- China-Hawaii economic council. (a) There is  
13 established within the department of business, economic  
14 development, and tourism for administrative purposes the China-  
15 Hawaii economic council to further economic relations between  
16 China and Hawaii.

17 (b) The China-Hawaii economic council shall be governed by  
18 a policymaking and oversight commission to be known as the  
19 China-Hawaii economic council commission. The China-Hawaii  
20 economic council commission shall consist of seven members  
21 appointed by the governor as provided in section 26-34. Members



1 shall not receive compensation but shall be reimbursed for  
2 reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

3 (c) The China-Hawaii economic council commission shall  
4 appoint an executive director of the China-Hawaii economic  
5 council, who shall:

6 (1) Serve as the China-Hawaii economic council chief  
7 executive officer;

8 (2) Be responsible for developing and administering the  
9 China-Hawaii economic council programs;

10 (3) Serve on a part-time or full-time basis;

11 (4) Be a person who, by reason of education or extensive  
12 experience, is generally recognized as being  
13 professionally qualified in China-Hawaii relations;

14 (5) Be familiar with the people and cultures of Hawaii and  
15 China;

16 (6) Be exempt from chapter 76; and

17 (7) Select necessary additional staff pursuant to chapter  
18 76, subject to available appropriations.

19 (d) Not later than December 31, 2020, the China-Hawaii  
20 economic council shall conduct the inaugural China-Hawaii  
21 economic council general meeting with business and government



1 leaders from China and Hawaii. Subsequent China-Hawaii economic  
2 council general meetings shall occur annually.

3 (e) Subsequent annual China-Hawaii economic council  
4 general meetings may:

5 (1) Alternate between Hawaii and China; and

6 (2) Include discussions on trade, tourism, education,  
7 investment, finance, communication, and culture.

8 (f) The China-Hawaii economic council shall submit  
9 proceedings of each China-Hawaii economic council general  
10 meeting to the legislature no later than one-hundred eighty days  
11 following the closing of each China-Hawaii economic council  
12 general meeting."

13 SECTION 3. The China-Hawaii economic council shall provide  
14 to the 2018, 2019, and 2020 legislatures an annual report no  
15 later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular  
16 session, which shall at a minimum include a description of  
17 progress made toward conducting the inaugural China-Hawaii  
18 economic council general meeting.

19 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and



1 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
2 year 2016-2017 for the China-Hawaii economic council.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
4 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes  
5 of this Act.

6 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015;  
8 provided that section 2 shall be repealed on June 30, 2035.

9

INTRODUCED BY:

Calvin K. King

JAN 23 2015



**Report Title:**

China-Hawaii Economic Council; Economic Development

**Description:**

Establishes the China-Hawaii Economic Council to further economic relations between China and Hawaii. Appropriates money.

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

