

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The confluence of the Internet, the world wide  
2 web, mobile device development, and other technological advances  
3 have helped governments to enhance services without expending  
4 significant government funds. However, government entities  
5 often do not have the resources or organizational culture to  
6 develop innovative solutions. To address this shortfall,  
7 communities and government entities have increasingly  
8 collaborated to present events, typically lasting as short as a  
9 weekend to as long as a month, where software developers compete  
10 for prizes by creating proofs of concept to address a specified  
11 challenge. These events, known as hackathons, often lead to the  
12 discovery of new ways to leverage existing government platforms  
13 into expanded services for the public.

14           In 2016, Governor David Ige and the office of enterprise  
15 technology services held the inaugural Hawaii annual code  
16 challenge (HACC) to engage the local technology community to  
17 help modernize state government. The challenge gathered local



1 talent to develop modern tools and software applications to  
2 provide enhanced government services to the public. The event  
3 also provided opportunities for students to network and present  
4 their skills to the public and private-sector professional  
5 communities, while allowing government departments to showcase  
6 their open datasets, present their current challenges, and  
7 request potential solutions. Through this collaborative  
8 environment, members of the public interacted directly with  
9 government resources and subject matter experts to help create  
10 innovative solutions and drive civic engagement.

11 The inaugural HACC in 2016 drew more than two hundred fifty  
12 participants who developed several highly regarded proofs of  
13 concept. State departments and other organizations made  
14 challenge pitches to the attendees, who formed teams to pitch  
15 potential solutions. For example, to solve the problem of  
16 managing visitors to correctional facilities, teams created a  
17 visitation software application for the department of public  
18 safety to use at the Oahu community correctional facility.  
19 Similarly, in response to a request from the Institute for Human  
20 Services, participants created a software application to aid  
21 social workers in collecting point-in-time information at



1 homeless encampments. The department of agriculture also  
2 benefitted from a team's development of a website to gather data  
3 on locally grown produce, allowing data to be crowdsourced.

4 At the second annual HACC in 2017, more than three hundred  
5 community participants formed twenty teams to create even more  
6 promising software applications. One team created an online  
7 tool to help the office of elections schedule volunteers during  
8 the busy election season. Another team created a software  
9 application to crowdsource the mapping of buildings to assist  
10 the University of Hawaii to geotag campus buildings. Finally, a  
11 team created an Alexa skill to allow individuals to interface  
12 with the Hawaii Revised Statutes with verbal commands.

13 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for grants  
14 to software application challenge participants so that the  
15 proofs of concept created during the challenges can be developed  
16 into prototypes.

17 SECTION 2. (a) The Hawaii technology development  
18 corporation shall:

19 (1) Use the funds appropriated by this Act, along with any  
20 matching funds, to award grants to help convert proofs  
21 of concept developed in Hawaii during software



- 1 application challenges into prototypes suitable for  
2 local and state government use;
- 3 (2) Seek donations from corporate, philanthropic, and  
4 other nongovernment sources; provided that moneys from  
5 donations shall account for not less than twenty-five  
6 per cent of moneys expended on a project-by-project  
7 basis;
- 8 (3) Require that all software applications that are the  
9 subject of any grant awarded be made open source so  
10 that anyone may use those applications free of charge  
11 based upon open source licensing;
- 12 (4) Require that any participant in a software application  
13 challenge is eligible to apply for a grant;
- 14 (5) Appoint a review committee to review grant  
15 applications pursuant to subsection (b) and award  
16 grants subject to available funding; and
- 17 (6) Submit a report to the legislature no later than  
18 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
19 session of 2019 on the:
- 20 (A) Number and dollar amounts of grants awarded; and  
21 (B) Progress of any software applications developed.



1 (b) A participant applying for a grant under this Act  
2 shall submit a grant application on a form prescribed by the  
3 Hawaii technology development corporation. The grant  
4 application shall:

5 (1) Require an overview of the software application and  
6 how continued development of that application will  
7 impact the State and the pitching agency's ability to  
8 service the community;

9 (2) Require the applicant to present an adoption plan for  
10 the software application, including critical success  
11 factors and how that application will sustain itself  
12 over time;

13 (3) Provide major budget components for the software  
14 application's development; and

15 (4) State the outcomes the applicant expects to achieve if  
16 awarded a grant.

17 (c) The Hawaii technology development corporation may  
18 expend some of the funds appropriated by this Act to support  
19 application challenge events, manage the prototype  
20 implementation process, and execute an adoption plan for the  
21 project, including marketing, outreach, and communications.



1 (d) No funds appropriated by this Act may be awarded as a  
2 prize for any software application challenge.

3 (e) For the purposes of this Act:

4 "Open source" means a software application whose source  
5 code is available to the general public, under the terms of a  
6 software license, for use or modification from its original  
7 design.

8 "Pitching agency" means a state or county agency that  
9 challenges software application challenge participants to create  
10 software applications.

11 "Proof of concept" means a software application that serves  
12 as a realization of a certain method or idea in order to  
13 demonstrate its feasibility or to verify that the method or idea  
14 has practical potential.

15 "Prototype" means a software application that possesses  
16 enough function that it may be tested or utilized by the  
17 pitching agency.

18 "Software application" means the applications or apps that  
19 result from the software application challenges, including but  
20 not limited to the broad categories of web apps, mobile apps,



1 computing devices, sensors, augmented reality, and virtual  
2 reality.

3 "Software application challenge" generally refers to events  
4 that bring teams together to collaborate and innovate solutions  
5 for a given theme or problem set.

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 2018-2019 for  
9 the purposes set forth in section 2 of this Act.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
11 technology development corporation for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



**Report Title:**

Technology; Software Application Challenges; Grants;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for grants to participants in software application challenges so that the proofs of concept created during the challenges can be developed into prototypes suitable for local and state government. Appropriates funds. Requires matching funds. Takes effect on 7/1/2112. (SD1)

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

