A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VISITOR INFORMATION.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that tourism is the State's leading industry. According to the department of business, economic development, and tourism, the primary source of income for Hawaii is the visitor sector, which spreads itself over several industries such as service, transportation, and retail trade. The legislature finds that the Capitol district located in Honolulu is a historical, cultural, educational, and recreational hub for visitors and residents.

Each year, the Capitol district draws many visitors to see and experience the historical sites and attractions in the area, including the State Capitol, Iolani Palace, Washington Place, Honolulu Hale, Kawaiaha'o church, Hawaii state art museum, Queen Lili'uokalani statue, and Father Damien statue, among others.

The legislature finds that a visitor information center located in the State Capitol would serve as a reliable and informative resource for informing and educating visitors about local areas and attractions, lodging, maps, transportation
routes, and other services; promoting the State's tourist attractions, services, and products; and serving as an effective community information service to residents.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"CHAPTER

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTER AND PROGRAM

§ -1 Purpose. The purpose of this chapter is to establish a permanent visitor information center program to support the visitor experience in the State and to assist visitors and other members of the public in their enjoyment of the historical, cultural, educational, and recreational resources of the Capitol district, its surrounding areas, and the State.

§ -2 Visitor information center; established. There is established in the state capitol a visitor information center to serve as a permanent source for informing and educating visitors about local areas and attractions, lodging, transportation, and other services; promoting the State's tourist attractions,
services, and products; and serving as an effective community
information service to residents.

§ 3 Visitor information center program; established.

(a) There is established in the state capitol a visitor
information center program that shall become part of the
legislature's permanent visitor information center program.

(b) The visitor information center program shall be
supervised by the joint legislative access committee established
pursuant to section 21D-6."

SECTION 3. Section 21D-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
amended to read as follows:

"§ 21D-6 Joint legislative access committee. There
is established the joint legislative access committee which
shall be composed of members of the legislature. The president
of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives
shall each appoint a co-chair and two members or more to the
committee, one of whom shall be a member of the minority party.
The committee shall:

(1) Oversee the staff and operations of the legislative
broadcast project, and recommend policies for the
project which shall be adopted by concurrent
resolution; [and]
(2) Oversee the staff and operations of the visitor
information center, and recommend policies for the
visitor information center program that shall be
adopted by concurrent resolution; and
(3) Review the operations of the public access room,
legislative internet project, and other public access
projects of the legislature and recommend policies for
these projects to the president of the senate and the
speaker of the house of representatives."

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
sum of $ or so much thereof as may be necessary for
fiscal year 2020-2021 for the purposes of this Act.
The sums appropriated shall be expended by the senate for
the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much
thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
The sum of $ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the purposes of this Act. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the house of representatives for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval; provided that sections 4 and 5 shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

INTRODUCED BY:

[Signature]

JAN 24 2019
Report Title:
State Capitol; Visitor Information Center; Appropriation

Description:
Establishes a Visitor Information Center in the State Capitol. Establishes a Visitor Information Center Program to support the operations of the Visitor Information Center. Appropriates funds.

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