
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND
TOURISM TO COMPILE A SHORT LIST OF FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES
THAT ARE SUITABLE TO RELOCATE TO HAWAII AND IDENTIFY MEANS
AND INCENTIVES TO ENTICE THESE COMPANIES TO RELOCATE.

1 WHEREAS, business activity and a strong economy are vital
2 to the public's health, safety, and welfare; and
3

4 WHEREAS, the economy of the State is largely dependent on
5 the tourism industry; and
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7 WHEREAS, the effects of the coronavirus disease 2019
8 (COVID-19) pandemic and resulting job losses in the tourism
9 sector of the economy have demonstrated the urgent need for
10 business diversification in the State; and
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12 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has shown that many jobs and
13 businesses can be done from virtually anywhere with an internet
14 connection; and
15

16 WHEREAS, business leaders must consider economic
17 development opportunities, business climate, tax friendliness,
18 and quality of life in determining the location for their
19 operations; and
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21 WHEREAS, the State consistently ranks among the top states
22 in the country for clean air quality, happiness of its citizens,
23 life expectancy, good weather, and overall quality of life; and
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25 WHEREAS, given the advances in technology and the way
26 business is conducted in the modern age, there are more reasons
27 for a company to relocate to Hawaii than ever before; and
28

29 WHEREAS, the following states have used incentives to
30 entice companies to relocate:
31



- 1 (1) Florida offers discretionary grant funding so long as
2 fifty jobs are created in a three-year period and an
3 investment of at least \$50,000,000 is made;
4
- 5 (2) Indiana offers a credit against corporate income tax
6 liability where the credit can be up to fifty percent
7 of a corporation's approved costs in relocating to
8 Indiana; provided that \$50,000,000 in new investment
9 and seventy-five new employees are required;
10
- 11 (3) Kentucky provides income tax credits to both regional
12 and national headquarter firms that can offset up to
13 one hundred percent of corporate income tax liability;
14
- 15 (4) Louisiana provides a rebate of up to twenty-five
16 percent of facilities and relocation costs over five
17 years;
18
- 19 (5) Mississippi offers incentives for national and
20 regional relocation of headquarters between \$500 and
21 \$2,000 per new job for a period of up to five years;
22
- 23 (6) South Carolina has a twenty percent credit against
24 corporate income tax liability, based on the cost of
25 the portion of the facility dedicated to headquarters
26 operation or direct lease costs for the first five
27 years of operation;
28
- 29 (7) Tennessee provides a refundable tax credit for
30 relocation expenses resulting from a move where the
31 credit can be used to offset franchise or excise tax
32 liability in the year earned; provided that if the tax
33 liability is less than the credit, the difference is
34 refunded in cash;
35
- 36 (8) West Virginia offers a credit of up to ten percent of
37 the company's qualified investment to offset corporate
38 income and business franchise tax liability for up to
39 thirteen years; and
40
- 41 (9) Wisconsin provides a refundable business tax credit
42 based upon a percentage of wages paid to eligible



1 headquarter employees and, in addition to
2 reimbursement of up to fifty percent of training
3 costs, the company can earn credits for up to three
4 percent of capital investment in personal property and
5 up to five percent of investment in real property;
6 provided that a new investment of \$1,000,000 is
7 required; and
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9 WHEREAS, the State should explore all possible incentives
10 to lure well-paying jobs and investment to Hawaii; now,
11 therefore,
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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
15 of 2021, that the Department of Business, Economic Development,
16 and Tourism is requested to compile a short list of Fortune 500
17 companies that could potentially relocated to the State; and
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department is requested to
20 also identify the means and incentives that might be attractive
21 to entice the companies on the list to relocate to the State;
22 and
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Business,
25 Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to submit a
26 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
27 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
28 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
32 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.
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