
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that despite having a
2 high school graduation rate of eighty-one per cent, only fifty-
3 six per cent of Hawaii's public school graduates continued on to
4 post-secondary education in 2015. The legislature further finds
5 that high school students in Hawaii would benefit from precisely
6 aligning curriculum to workforce readiness, which depends upon
7 close collaboration between the public school system, a
8 community college, and one or more industry employers near the
9 school complex to ensure they receive the industry-based skills
10 and certification required for post-graduation employment and to
11 live, learn, work, and play in the community.

12 Closing the skills gap is especially critical in the
13 manufacturing industry. Over the next decade, nearly 3,500,000
14 manufacturing jobs will likely need to be filled throughout the
15 country, yet the skills gap is expected to result in 2,000,000
16 of these jobs remaining unfilled. There are numerous
17 contributing factors to this widening gap, including looming
18 baby boomer retirements and economic expansion. However, other



1 contributing factors include loss of embedded knowledge due to
2 movement of experienced workers; a perceived preference among
3 younger generations for industries other than manufacturing;
4 lack of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)
5 skills among workers; and a gradual decline of technical
6 education programs in public high schools.

7 The legislature additionally finds that collaboration
8 between educators and industry allows students to graduate from
9 high school with a high school diploma and an industry-
10 recognized associate's degree. Students may also earn pre-
11 apprenticeship certificates and other industry-recognized
12 certificates in addition to an associate's degree. The
13 legislature also finds that similar models recently established
14 in Connecticut, Illinois, and New York are showing promise in
15 graduating more high school students with career-ready skills to
16 meet an industry's workforce needs.

17 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
18 education to collaborate with the workforce development council
19 on workforce development initiatives.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§302A- Workforce development collaboration. The
5 department shall collaborate with the workforce development
6 council on workforce development initiatives pursuant to section
7 202-2(b)."

8 SECTION 3. Section 202-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§202-2 Duties of council. (a) In accordance with P.L.
11 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3111), the workforce development council
12 shall assist the governor in:

13 (1) The development, implementation, and modification of
14 the state plan consistent with P.L. 113-128 (29 U.S.C.
15 3112);

16 (2) The review of statewide policies, statewide programs,
17 and recommendations on actions that should be taken by
18 the State to align workforce development programs in a
19 manner that supports a comprehensive and streamlined
20 workforce development system in the State, including



- 1 consideration of programs and activities of one-stop
2 partners that are not core programs;
- 3 (3) The development and continuous improvement of the
4 workforce development system in the State;
- 5 (4) The development and updating of comprehensive state
6 performance accountability measures, including state
7 adjusted levels of performance, to assess the
8 effectiveness of the core programs in the State as
9 required under P.L. 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3141(b));
- 10 (5) The identification and dissemination of information on
11 best practices for the effective operation of one-stop
12 centers, and the development of effective local boards
13 and effective training programs;
- 14 (6) The development and review of statewide policies
15 affecting the coordinated provision of services
16 through the State's one-stop delivery system;
- 17 (7) The development of strategies for technological
18 improvements to facilitate access to, and improve the
19 quality of, services and activities provided through
20 the one-stop delivery system;



1 (8) The development of strategies for aligning technology
2 and data systems across one-stop partner programs to
3 enhance service delivery and improve efficiencies in
4 reporting on performance accountability measures,
5 including the design and implementation of common
6 intake, data collection, case management information,
7 and performance accountability measurement and
8 reporting processes, and the incorporation of local
9 input into such design and implementation, to improve
10 coordination of services across one-stop partner
11 programs;

12 (9) The development of allocation formulas for the
13 distribution of funds for employment and training
14 activities for adults, and youth workforce investment
15 activities, to local areas as permitted under P.L.
16 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3163(b)(3), 3173(b)(3));

17 (10) The preparation of annual reports as described in P.L.
18 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3141(d));

19 (11) The development of the statewide workforce and labor
20 market information system described in the Wagner-
21 Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 491-2(e));



- 1 (12) The development of such other policies as may promote
2 statewide objectives for, and enhance the performance
3 of, the workforce development system;
- 4 (13) Creating public awareness and understanding of the
5 State's workforce development plans, policies,
6 programs, and activities, and promoting the plans,
7 policies, programs, and activities as economic
8 investments;
- 9 (14) Submitting annual reports of the council's activities
10 and recommendations to the governor and the
11 legislature, and posting the annual reports
12 electronically on the council's website no later than
13 twenty days before the convening of each regular
14 session. Annual reports shall include:
- 15 (A) The status of the comprehensive state plan for
16 workforce development; and
- 17 (B) Information regarding the workforce development
18 programs offered throughout the State, the number
19 of individuals placed in high-demand or high-
20 growth employment through workforce development
21 programs by departments, the type or category of



1 employment garnered, and allocations of state,
2 federal, and other funding to achieve placements
3 into higher-skilled jobs;

4 (15) Evaluating the state workforce development plan in
5 terms of how its purposes, goals, and objectives have
6 been carried out throughout the State;

7 (16) Providing technical assistance to local workforce
8 development boards and other similar organizations;

9 (17) Carrying out required functions and duties related to
10 workforce development of any advisory body required or
11 made optional by federal legislation;

12 (18) The review and certification of local workforce boards
13 and plans prepared by local workforce boards for the
14 use of federal workforce development funds as provided
15 in P.L. 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3122(b)-(c)); and

16 (19) Commenting on the measures taken pursuant to section
17 122(c)(17) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical
18 Education Act of 2006, P.L. 109-270.

19 (b) The workforce development council shall collaborate
20 with the department of education on workforce development
21 initiatives to:



- 1 (1) Develop sector strategies and a career pathways system
2 that will integrate education and training and move
3 persons seeking jobs into growth industries by:
4 (A) Using economic data, industry clusters, and
5 industry resources to determine growth industries
6 and the skill needs of industries and employers;
7 (B) Establishing and maintaining initiatives that
8 facilitate ongoing dialogue between government,
9 employers, and other key stakeholders to increase
10 understanding of growth industry needs and
11 develop strategies to meet those needs;
12 (C) Focusing public resources on training that moves
13 workers into industries with high-quality jobs
14 that lead to better financial outcomes and longer
15 job tenures for workers;
16 (D) Facilitating the development of common programs
17 for individuals who choose to enroll in post
18 secondary education and individuals who choose to
19 develop employment skills through work experience
20 or on-the-job training;



- 1 (E) Coordinating a common work assessment process
- 2 between core partners;
- 3 (F) Implementing the employment first state mentoring
- 4 program; and
- 5 (G) Maintaining the iCAN bridging program at the
- 6 community schools for adults as a stepping stone
- 7 to proceed into a career pathway leading to a
- 8 work-readiness certificate or degree; and
- 9 (2) Engage employers in the workforce development system
- 10 by:
- 11 (A) Improving employer use of the participant
- 12 management information system by:
- 13 (i) Promoting the benefits of using the system;
- 14 (ii) Providing training in the system; and
- 15 (iii) Making improvements to the system for the
- 16 purpose of user friendliness;
- 17 (B) Expanding employer involvement with program
- 18 design to improve access to jobs;
- 19 (C) Focusing on short- and long-term goals aligned
- 20 with industry needs, created with industry input,



1 and sustained through industry oversight and
2 participation; and

3 (D) Establishing core partner teams.

4 (c) The workforce development council shall submit a
5 report to the senate committee on education, senate committee on
6 higher education, house of representatives committee on
7 education, and house of representatives committee on higher
8 education ninety days prior to the start of each regular session
9 on the progress of workforce development initiatives pursuant to
10 subsection (b)."

11 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

12 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

13



S.B. NO. 49
S.D. 1
Proposed

Report Title:

Department of Education; Workforce Development Council;
Workforce Development Initiatives

Description:

Requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the
Workforce Development Council on workforce development
initiatives. (Proposed SD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

