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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS  
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA  
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL  
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**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL'S  
EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE AGENDA  
Wednesday, January 15, 2025  
1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

**Remote Meeting:**

*This meeting will be held remotely by Zoom interactive conference technology. Board members, staff, and members of the public may participate in the remote meeting by using the following Zoom link:*

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84430811774?pwd=LEi8f7hQUnfF9bYJR7PgSNISTOjVL4.1>

*If you do not have the technology or ability to join the remote meeting via Zoom, please dial +1 (669) 444-9171 on the telephone to participate in the remote meeting.*

Meeting ID: 844 3081 1774

Passcode: 321525

**Physical Meeting:**

*A physical meeting location will be open to the public and will have an audiovisual connection, which will allow individuals at the physical meeting location to participate in the remote meeting. The address of the physical meeting location is 680 Iwilei Road, Dole Cannery Office Building, Suite 700, Honolulu, Hawaii 96817.*

**Written and Oral Testimony:**

*Individuals may submit written testimony by U.S. mail or hand delivery at 830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 317, Honolulu, HI 96813 or by email at*

*DLIR.Workforce.Council@hawaii.gov. To ensure that members are able to review testimony prior to the meeting, we encourage interested persons to submit written testimony by 24 hours prior to the meeting. Any written testimony submitted after such time testimony will be retained as part of the record and distributed to members as soon as practicable, but we cannot ensure members will receive it in sufficient time to review prior to any decision-making.*

*Individuals may provide remote oral testimony during the remote meeting at the Zoom link listed above. Individuals participating at the physical meeting location may also provide oral testimony during the remote meeting.*

*Equal Opportunity Employer/Program*

*If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please contact Bennette Misalucha at (808) 586-8815 (for TTY/TTD Dial 711 then ask for (808) 586-8815) or email [dilir.workforce.council@hawaii.gov](mailto:dilir.workforce.council@hawaii.gov) as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible will allow adequate time to fulfill your request. Upon request, this notice is available in alternative formats such as large print, Braille, or electronic copy.*

**AGENDA**

I. Call to Order..... Chair Derek Kanehira

II. Committee Update..... Chair Derek Kanehira

*Chair will discuss the schedule for this year and how the Committee will be structured. He will also solicit feedback on the needs of the Committee.*

III. Workforce Opportunity Tax Credit Update..... Chair Derek Kanehira

*An update on the status of the backlog of the Workforce Opportunity Tax credit applications that are currently being processed.*

IV. Update on Workforce Unified Plan Implementation.....Bennette Misalucha.  
Executive Director, Workforce Development Council

*The Executive Director will give an overview of the State Unified Plan and its implementation Plan. She will encourage participation from this Committee members. The purview of the Committee is directly aligned with the precepts of Pillar # 1.*

***Pillar 1: Alignment with Economic Development***

*How can the Employer Engagement Committee ensure that workforce development initiatives are closely aligned with the evolving needs of the state’s economic development strategies?*

*How can we foster greater collaboration between economic development agencies and employers to ensure our programs are responsive to market demands?*

- V. Presentation: Update on High Impact and Emerging industries by the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) ..... Thomas Chock, Designee, DBEDT

*The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism will provide an update on the high-impact and emerging industries they have identified, along with the workforce development needs necessary to support these industries. This presentation aims to foster alignment between economic development strategies and workforce development initiatives, ensuring a collaborative approach to addressing Hawaii’s workforce and economic priorities.*

- VI. Executive Director’s Report.....Bennette Misalucha, Executive Director, Workforce Development Council

- A. 2024 Highlights of Workforce Development Council Activities

- A list of the accomplishments and activities of the Council including its work related to sector partnerships.*

- B. Update on the transition of Workforce Development Council as an attached agency to Department of Labor and Industrial Relations

- The Workforce Development Council became an attached agency to the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in July 2024. The transition process is still ongoing and the report will touch upon the status of the move.*

- C. Status on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act unexpended funds.

*1) Two Request for Proposals a) American Job Centers Awareness Public Relations Campaign b) Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Research*

*2) Three Memorandum of Agreements with three Entities: a) University of Hawaii Community Colleges; b) Hawaii P-20 Partnership for Education; c) University of Hawaii Systems*

VII. Announcements and Constituent Comments (if any)

*At this time, the public is welcome to announce upcoming events and comment on relevant issues that were not included in this meeting's agenda. Please be advised that in compliance with the Sunshine Law, the Committee cannot discuss or act on issues that were not included in this meeting's agenda, but issues raised in constituent comments may be included in a future agenda for the Committee's consideration.*

VIII. Next Meeting: The next meeting for the Employer Engagement Committee will be in April 2025 but the date will be finalized shortly. The Council is in the process of setting up the dates for all the Committees.

IX. Adjournment