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**STATE OF HAWAII
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
KA 'OIHANA PONO LIMAHANA**

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**HAWAII WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING**

AGENDA

Date: Thursday, April 2, 2026
Time: 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
In-Person Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Building
Meeting Location: 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 317
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Virtual Participation: Virtual Videoconference Meeting – Zoom Meeting (Link below)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86198773469?pwd=ibOGubHNpuKqbo5Duy8lVRLtpAyzNT.1>

Meeting ID: 861 9877 3469

Passcode: 098333

Agenda: The agenda was posted to the State electronic calendars as required by §92-7(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes ("HRS")

Board Meeting Materials: Meeting materials are available for review at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/>

Individuals may submit written testimony by hard copy mail or hand delivery to: Attn: Workforce Development Council, 830 Punchbowl Street, Suite 317, Honolulu, HI 96813 or by email at DLIR.Workforce.Council@hawaii.gov. We request submission of testimony at least 24 hours prior to the meeting to ensure that it can be distributed to the Board members. Any written testimony submitted after such time 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.

Internet Access:

To view the meeting and provide live oral testimony, please use the link at the top of the agenda. You will be asked to enter your name. The Board requests that you enter your full name, but you may use a pseudonym or other identifier if you wish to remain anonymous. You will also be asked for an email address. You may fill in this field with any entry in an email format, e.g., ****@***mail.com

Your microphone will be automatically muted, and video will be turned off. When the Chairperson asks for public testimony, you may click the Raise Hand button found on your Zoom screen to indicate that you wish to testify about an agenda item. You will individually be enabled to unmute your microphone, turn on your video if you choose to, and testify. When recognized by the Chairperson, please unmute your microphone and turn on your video if you choose to before speaking and mute your microphone and turn off your video after you finish speaking

Phone Access:

If you do not have internet access, you may get audio-only access by calling the Zoom Phone Number listed at the top on the agenda. Upon dialing the number, you will be prompted to enter the Meeting ID which is also listed at the top of the agenda. After entering the Meeting ID, you will be asked to wait to be admitted into the meeting. When the Chairperson asks for public testimony, you may indicate you want to testify by entering “*” and then “9” on your phone’s keypad. After entering “*” and then “9”, a voice prompt will let you know that the host of the meeting has been notified. When recognized by the Chairperson, you may unmute yourself by pressing “*” and then “6” on your phone. A voice prompt will let you know that you are unmuted. Once you are finished speaking, please enter “*” and then “6” again to mute yourself.

For both internet and phone access, when testifying, you will be asked to identify yourself and the organization, if any, that you represent. Each testifier will be limited to five minutes of testimony per agenda item. Pursuant to section 92-3.7(e), HRS, the Board may remove or block any person who willfully disrupts or compromises the conduct of the meeting.

If connection to the meeting is lost for more than 30 minutes, the meeting will be continued on a specified date and time. This information will be provided on the Council’s website [at https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/](https://labor.hawaii.gov/wdc/meeting-docs/).

Instructions to attend State of Hawaii virtual board meetings may be found online at <https://labor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/State-of-Hawaii-Virtual-Board-Attendee-Instructions.pdf>.

Vision Statement

The Workforce Development Council’s vision is that all employers have competitively skilled employees and all residents seeking work or advancement have sustainable employment and self-sufficiency.

Mission Statement

It is the intent of the Workforce Development Council to support and guide the implementation of the Unified State Plan through active collaboration and regional sensitivity for the purpose of aligning, coordinating, and integrating workforce services to meet the needs of employers and residents in order to foster a robust economy.

I. **Call to Order**Keith DeMello, Workforce Development Council Chair

II. **Presentation: 2024-2028 State Unified Plan Modification***

One of the key responsibilities of the Workforce Development Council or State Board is the development, the modification, and the implementation of the State Workforce Unified Plan.

The Modified Plan sets a two-year strategy to align core workforce programs (Adult Program, Dislocated Worker program, Youth program, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act program, the Wagner-Peyser Act Employment Service program, and the Vocational Rehabilitation program) and strengthen partnerships among public, private, and educational sectors. It aims to connect residents to quality jobs, create pathways to living-wage careers, and address barriers to employment, especially for vulnerable populations. The plan focuses on economic diversification, upskilling, and leveraging federal investments to prepare Hawai'i's workforce for high-demand industries like healthcare, technology, and energy. It also seeks to transform workforce services, improve coordination, and foster long-term strategies for a sustainable, competitive economy

This agenda item will involve the Council's approval of the final version of the Plan for submission to the United States Department of Labor by the April 3, 2026 deadline.

*** Requires Board Action**

III. **Local Workforce Board Certification**

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), the Governor, together with the Workforce Development Council (WDC), is responsible for setting the criteria for local board appointments and certifying each Local Workforce Development Board (LWDB) every two years. The latest guidance indicates that the Chief Local Elected Official must submit the LWDB Membership Certification Request by March 31 of each even-numbered year.

To support this process, the WDC needs to establish a clear and workable approach for reviewing these certification requests.

The proposed resolution assigns this responsibility to the Special Projects Committee, with Special Projects Committee Chair Dion Dizon and WDC Chair Keith DeMello leading the review, with support from staff. The certification work will begin at the next Special Projects Committee meeting in April. The Committee will then be expected to bring forward recommendations to the Executive Committee, and ultimately to the full Council for action.

Given the tight meeting schedule, that the next Executive Committee meeting will be on April 23, 2026, followed by the full Council meeting on May 21st, the resolution provides the Special Projects Committee presents its recommendations to the Executive Committee at its July 30th meeting, and for full council action at the third quarterly board meeting on September 10, 2026.

*** Requires Board Action**

IV. Workforce Development Council's Next Meeting

Tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2026 at 9:30 am-12 noon.

*Virtual Videoconferencing Meeting via Zoom and in-person at 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 317,
Honolulu, HI 96813*

IV. Adjournment

Reasonable accommodation for people with disabilities are available upon request. Requests for accommodations should be submitted via email to Bennette.E.Misalucha@hawaii.gov or by calling Bennette Misalucha at (808) 586- 3018 (voice) as soon as possible. Such requests should include a detailed description of the accommodation needed. In addition, please include a way for Bennette Misalucha to contact the requester if more information is needed to fulfill the request. Last minute requests will be accepted but may not be possible to accommodate. Upon request, this notice is available in alternate formats.