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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 PROJECTS COMMITTEE MEETING**

AGENDA

Date: Friday, April 17, 2026
Time: 2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
In-Person Meeting Location: Princess Ruth Ke'elikolani Building
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/87049869678?pwd=jFPvnhubbFau6S4fo1DbhLkaiv8an7.1>

Meeting ID: 870 4986 9678

Passcode: 624296

One tap mobile
+1-669-444-9171

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/>.

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 *Committee Chair Dion Dizon*
- II. Approval of Minutes of January 28, 2026, Special Projects Committee Meeting
- III. Legislative Updates for 2026 Legislative Session..... *Workforce Development Council Chair Keith DeMello*

BILLS OF INTEREST	
<u>HB1859 HD1</u>	<p>Title: RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>Description: Requires the Workforce Development Council to recommend to the Governor, a comprehensive Statewide Workforce Strategy to inclusion in the State Unified Plan and be responsible for facilitating the alignment of workforce development efforts and programs conducted by state departments and agencies to achieve the State Unified Plan and the Comprehensive Statewide Workforce Strategy. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)</p>
<u>HB2315 HD1</u>	<p>Title: RELATING TO STATE EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.</p> <p>Description: Authorizes the Department of Health to establish a vacation payout pilot program in which eligible Department of Health employees may defer unused vacation leave credits in favor of a pay out to provide home purchase down payment assistance. Requires reports to the Legislature. Requires reports to the Legislature. Sunsets 6/30/2029. (SD1)</p>
<u>HB2383 HD1</u>	<p>Title: RELATING TO THE WORKFORCE PELL GRANT PROGRAM.</p> <p>Description: Establishes a statewide framework for the implementation of the federal Workforce Pell Grant Program to provide financial aid for certain short-term workforce education and training programs.</p>

	Establishes a Workforce Pell Grant Program Approval Committee within the Workforce Development Council. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD1)
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GOVERNOR'S MESSAGES

<i>PASSED ADVISE AND CONSENT HEARINGS</i>

<u>GM503</u>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, DOUGLAS CHANG, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<u>GM504</u>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GEORGE DENISE, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<u>GM512</u>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, JASON BENN, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<u>GM626</u>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, SEAN NAKAMURA, for a term to expire 06-30-2027.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<u>GM627</u>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GINA ANONUEVO, for a term to expire 06-30-2026.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<u>GM629</u>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, TRANG MALONE, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM630</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, CARY MIYASHIRO, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM631</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, KEITH DEMELLO, for a term to expire 06-30-2029.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM726</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, GINA ANONUEVO, for a term to expire 06-30-2030</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM759</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHRISTOPHER BURNETT, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<i>Pending Hearing / Not Yet Heard</i>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM792</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, CHERYL CROSS, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM793</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, ASHLEIGH LOA, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>GM779</u></p>	<p>Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Hawai'i Workforce Development Council, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARK PHONGSAVATH, for a term to expire 06-30-2030.</p> <p>Description: See Title</p>

IV. Update from the Military Spouses Committee

- a. Introduction of the Military Spouses Permitted Interaction Group*
- b. Virtual Job Fair Pilot Program*

V. Executive Director's Report

- a. Status of the 2026 Modification Plan*
- b. Accomplishments*
 - i. First Annual Hawaii Internship Summit 2026*
 - ii. Internship Excellence Awards*
- c. Focus for the next quarter*
 - i. Workforce Pell Working Group*
 - ii. Legislative Matters*
 - iii. Operational Transition*
 - iv. Implementation of Unified Plan/collaboration with Hui stakeholders*
 - v. Building Strategic Alliances with key community organizations*
 - vi. Procurement of Services for Research and Grants*
 - vii. Staff Training and Transition*
 - viii. AI Training*
- d. Update on the 2024-2028 State Unified Plan Implementation*

VI. Next Meeting

Tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, July 21, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. Virtual Videoconferencing Meeting via Zoom and in-person at 830 Punchbowl Street, Room 317, Honolulu, HI 96813

VII. Adjournment

Reasonable accommodations 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.