
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that recent changes to
2 the federal temporary assistance for needy families program
3 rules and subsequent first-to-work program changes, which limit
4 educational activities to two years of study leading to
5 vocational or technical degrees to meet federal work
6 requirements, exempts currently participating students and
7 allows them to finish their education. For example, current
8 first-to-work participating students who are pursuing a
9 baccalaureate degree are transferred to the state-funded bridge
10 to hope program to continue their studies. However, new federal
11 temporary assistance for needy families program first-to-work
12 participating students are restricted to the new two-year
13 education activity option to receive vocational or technical
14 degrees. These students will no longer be able to continue to
15 pursue a four-year baccalaureate degree in favorite areas of
16 study such as pre-nursing without violating federal work rules.

17 The purpose of this Act is to make clarifying amendments
18 and appropriate funds to the bridge to hope program to enable



1 new federal temporary assistance for needy families program
2 first-to-work students to continue their educational activities
3 beyond the two-year federal limit by transferring them to the
4 state-funded bridge to hope program.

5 SECTION 2. Section 346-68, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsections (a) and (b) to read as follows:

7 "(a) There is created within the department a post-
8 secondary education benefits program, to be known as the bridge
9 to hope program, for heads of households in the [~~temporary~~
10 ~~assistance to needy families program.~~] first-to-work or cash
11 support for families pursuing self-sufficiency programs.

12 (b) To receive assistance under [~~this program~~] these
13 programs, the [~~single~~] parent shall:

- 14 (1) Be enrolled as a student each term;
- 15 (2) Maintain passing grades or better throughout the
16 course of study; and
- 17 (3) Meet work activity requirements as defined by the
18 department."

19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
22 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year



1 2008-2009 for the bridge to hope program to accommodate new
2 federal temporary assistance for needy families program first-
3 to-work students to enable them to pursue educational activities
4 beyond the new two-year federal limit.

5 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
6 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

7 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,
10 except that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



Report Title:

Bridge to Hope; Educational Activities; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Bridge to Hope Program to accommodate new federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program recipient-students to enable them to pursue education activities beyond the new two-year federal limit. Makes other clarifying amendments. (HB473 HD1)

