
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 receiving financial
10 assistance and participating in the [temporary assistance to
11 needy families program.] first-to-work programs.

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

14 (1) Be enrolled as a student each [~~term,~~] term in an
15 approved course of study, not limited to vocational
16 education;

17 (2) Maintain passing grades or better throughout the
18 course of study; and

19 (3) Meet work activity requirements as defined by the
20 department."

21 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
22 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
2 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
3 2008-2009 for the bridge to hope program to accommodate new
4 federal temporary assistance for needy families program first-
5 to-work students to enable them to pursue educational activities
6 beyond the new two-year federal limit.

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

9 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020,
12 except that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



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 first-to-work students to enable them to pursue education activities beyond the new two-year federal limit. Makes other clarifying amendments. (HB473 HD2)

