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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

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

1	SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2	adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3	as follows:
4	"CHAPTER
5	SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT EMPOWERMENT (SEE) HAWAI`I WORK PROGRAM
6	§ -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter:
7	"Department" means the department of human services.
8	"Employment related expenses" includes, but is not limited
9	to, unemployment insurance, workers compensation, and FICA.
10	"Program" means the Supporting Employment Empowerment (SEE)
11	Hawai`i Work Program.
12	S -2 Authorization; program requirements. (a) The
13	department is authorized to enact and operate a program focused
14	on transitioning welfare recipients to the workforce, and shall
15	be referred to as the Supporting Employment Empowerment (SEE)
16	Hawai`i Work Program.
17	(b) The program authorized under this chapter shall
18	incorporate the following features:

HB HMIA 2011-25.doc

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1	(1)	The department shall reimburse employers an
2		amount equal to the current minimum wage plus
3		\$0.50 for each additional full \$1 per hour paid
4	·	over the minimum wage for up to 40 hours per
5		week;
6	(2)	The department shall reimburse employers an
7		additional fourteen percent of subsidized wages
8		to cover training and employment related
9		expenses;
10	(3)	The department may reimburse an employer up to
11		\$200 per month, subject to negotiation with the
12		employer, when the employer assists an employee
13		with transportation to and from work;
14	(4)	The department shall prescreen job applicants for
15		potential employers based on the job needs,
16		specific skills, and qualifications provided by
17		the employer and an application completed by the
18		job applicant;
19	(5)	The department shall accept both part-time, which
20		shall be a position of at least twenty-four hours
21		a week, but not more than thirty hours a week,
22		and full-time job openings, which shall be



Page 3

1		classified as a position of at least thirty hours
2		a week, from potential employers;
3	(6)	The department shall impose no limitation on the
4		number of job applicants that an employer may
5		select from the program;
6	(7)	The employer shall provide selected job
7		applicants the prevailing industry wage and the
8		same benefits it offers its employees in similar
9		positions; and
10	(8)	The department shall contract with a private
11		employment service agency to market the program,
12		take and fill job orders from companies, and
13		provide ongoing support to employers and
14		employees.
15	(c) The d	duration of the wage reimbursement authorized
16	under subsection	on (b) shall be no less than six months and no
17	more than twel	ve months.
18	§ -3	Rulemaking. The department shall adopt rules
19	pursuant to ch	apter 91 necessary for the purposes of this
20	chapter."	
21	SECTION 2	. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
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HB HMIA 2011-25.doc

Report Title:

Human services

Description:

Establishes a welfare-to-work program. Grants rulemaking authority.

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