

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

| 1 | SECTION 1. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is |
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| 2 | amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated |
| 3 | and to read as follows: |
| 4 | "§302A- Hawaii underserved complex area educator |
| 5 | scholarship program. (a) There is established the Hawaii |
| 6 | underserved complex area educator scholarship program to be |
| 7 | administered by the department to address the shortfall of |
| 8 | accredited teachers within certain complex areas in Hawaii. The |
| 9 | program shall be used to provide financial assistance in the |
| 10 | form of scholarships to students who meet the requirements of |
| 11 | subsection (b). |
| 12 | (b) A student is eligible for scholarship consideration if |
| 13 | the student meets the following requirements: |
| 14 | (1) Is enrolled at a University of Hawaii campus and |
| 15 | qualifies for Hawaii resident tuition; |

| 1 | (2) | Is enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, or |
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| 2 | | certificate program to teach primary or secondary |
| 3 | | education, as determined by the department; |
| 4 | (3) | Maintains satisfactory academic progress, as defined |
| 5 | | by the federal title IV requirements and the program |
| 6 | | in which the student is enrolled; |
| 7 | (4) | Completes and submits the Free Application for Federal |
| 8 | | Student Aid (FAFSA) each academic year, and accepts |
| 9 | | all federal and state aid, grants, scholarships, and |
| 10 | | other funding sources that do not require repayment; |
| 11 | (5) | Submits an application to the department and agrees to |
| 12 | | teach at a public school for five years in a complex |
| 13 | | area designated by the department to be underserved |
| 14 | | after completion of the program in which the student |
| 15 | | is enrolled; and |
| 16 | (6) | Has unmet direct cost needs. |
| 17 | (c) | Scholarships shall be awarded: |
| 18 | (1) | On a first-come, first-served basis; |
| 19 | (2) | In an amount up to fifty per cent of the student's |
| 20 | | unmet direct cost needs based on the FAFSA calculation |

| 1 | | of need minus what is available from federal Pell |
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| 2 | | grants and other scholarships; and |
| 3 | (3) | To the extent funds are available to support the |
| 4 | | scholarship award. |
| 5 | (d) | Scholarship recipients shall teach at a public school |
| 6 | in a comp | lex area designated by the department to be underserved |
| 7 | for five | of the ten years immediately following completion of |
| 8 | their pro | gram at the University of Hawaii. If a recipient fails |
| 9 | to comple | te an eligible degree or certificate program, or to |
| 10 | satisfy t | he teaching requirement within the allotted time, |
| 11 | scholarsh | ip funds shall be repaid as follows: |
| 12 | (1) | For each year less than five years that a scholarship |
| 13 | | recipient does not teach at a school in a complex area |
| 14 | | designated by the department to be underserved, the |
| 15 | | recipient shall repay twenty per cent of the total |
| 16 | | scholarship funds received; and |
| 17 | (2) | The department shall set the terms and conditions for |
| 18 | | scholarship repayment, including circumstances under |
| 19 | | which recipients may be eligible for deferment or |
| 20 | | forgiveness due to hardship or inability to secure |
| 21 | | employment. |

| 1 | (e) If a recipient accepts a position and begins teaching |
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| 2 | at a school in a complex area designated by the department to be |
| 3 | underserved and the department withdraws the underserved |
| 4 | designation from the complex area before the recipient has |
| 5 | satisfied the requirements of subsection (d), the complex area |
| 6 | shall continue to be designated as underserved for the purpose |
| 7 | of that recipient's teaching requirement as long as the |
| 8 | recipient continues to teach at a school in that complex area. |
| 9 | (f) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter |
| 10 | 91 to implement and administer the scholarship program. |
| 11 | (g) For purposes of this section: |
| 12 | "Department" means the department of education. |
| 13 | "Direct cost" means the costs of tuition, fees, books, |
| 14 | supplies, and transportation." |
| 15 | SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general |
| 16 | revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,500,000 or so much |
| 17 | thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the |
| 18 | same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year |
| 19 | 2018-2019 for the establishment and implementation of the Hawaii |
| 20 | underserved complex area educator scholarship program. |

- 1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
- 2 of education for the purposes of this Act.
- 3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
- 4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 20 2017

Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Department of Education; Scholarship; Education Majors; Teacher Shortages; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes an underserved complex area educator scholarship program to be administered by the department of education to address the shortage of teachers in school complex areas designated by the department as underserved. Appropriates funds for the program for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 fiscal years.

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