
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes that unemployment
2 can have lasting effects on individuals and families that go
3 beyond their pocketbooks. Unemployment is associated with,
4 among other things, increased rates of physical and mental
5 illness, alcohol and drug abuse, failed relationships, and other
6 personal and social challenges. Unemployment has a dire effect
7 on people's quality of life and has ripple negative effects on
8 the economy and communities.

9 The solution to unemployment is complex and requires a
10 multi-faceted approach to addressing this issue. The
11 legislature finds that a public sector option to provide jobs
12 within state government merits consideration to support efforts
13 to reduce unemployment and the barriers to better paying jobs
14 for Hawaii residents. The legislature believes a public sector
15 option will also help address the underemployed, or part-time
16 workers who would prefer to work full-time, and discouraged



1 workers, or individuals who want a job but have stopped looking
2 because they do not believe work is available.

3 The purpose of this Act is to establish a task force to
4 study the feasibility of creating a public sector option to
5 provide jobs for all in the State.

6 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a task force to study
7 the feasibility of creating a public sector option to provide
8 jobs for all in the State. The study shall include, but is not
9 limited to:

- 10 (1) Determining a public sector option for jobs for all;
- 11 (2) Examining the feasibility of guaranteeing Hawaii
12 residents over the age of eighteen a job in the public
13 sector under the public option;
- 14 (3) Identifying the types of public sector jobs that would
15 be available and those who would qualify for the jobs
16 under the public option;
- 17 (4) Determining the funding for the jobs, including health
18 insurance, retirement, and other benefits and
19 compensation associated with the jobs identified under
20 the public option; and



(5) The overall cost-savings and other advantages and disadvantages of the public option on the state economy.

(b) The task force shall comprise:

(1) The director of labor and industrial relations or the director's designee, who shall serve as the chair of the task force;

(2) The director of human resources development or the director's designee;

(3) The chair of the senate committee on labor or the chair's designee;

(4) The chair of the house committee on labor or the chair's designee;

(5) One member appointed by the governor;

(6) One member appointed by the president of the senate;
and

(7) One member appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(c) The task force shall submit the following reports, including its findings, recommendations, and any proposed legislation, to the legislature:



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(1) An initial report no later than twenty days before the convening of the regular session of 2019; and

(2) A final report no later than twenty days before the convening of the regular session of 2020.

(d) The task force shall cease on June 30, 2020.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

[Signature]
Ton Br
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Nicole E. Low
[Signature]

JAN 19 2018



H.B. NO. 1992

Report Title:

Economy; Employment; Jobs for All Public Option; Task Force

Description:

Establishes a task force to study the feasibility of creating a public option to provide jobs within state government.

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