

JAN 25 2017

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has been  
2 experiencing teacher shortages over the last several years, and  
3 that it is particularly difficult to fill vacancies for STEM  
4 (science, technology, engineering, and math) teachers in  
5 secondary education in the State. The legislature further finds  
6 that, to help fill these critical positions in the Hawaii public  
7 school system, a legislative scholarship program should be  
8 created to encourage qualified students at the University of  
9 Hawaii to pursue teaching degrees in STEM subjects.

10           According to the Hawaii Community Foundation, over the last  
11 ten years the growth of STEM jobs in the United States has been  
12 three times greater than the growth of non-STEM jobs. In Hawaii  
13 alone, it is estimated that sixteen thousand five hundred  
14 workers with STEM skills will be needed annually as STEM-related  
15 jobs increase across all industries. Unfortunately, Hawaii is  
16 not producing enough graduates in STEM fields locally to fill  
17 these anticipated jobs. The legislature finds that exposing



1 students to quality STEM education as part of their secondary  
2 education curriculum is a key component of interesting students  
3 in, and preparing them for, careers in the growing STEM market.  
4 Filling the vacancies of STEM secondary teachers is vital to  
5 achieve this goal.

6 The purpose of this Act is to establish a legislative  
7 scholarship program to encourage students at the University of  
8 Hawaii to pursue teaching degrees in STEM subjects. The program  
9 shall be administered by the department of education and funded  
10 by the legislature.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
13 and to read as follows:

14 "§304A- Hawaii STEM educator scholarship program. (a)  
15 There is established the Hawaii STEM educator scholarship  
16 program to be administered by the department to address the  
17 shortfall of STEM secondary education teachers in Hawaii. The  
18 program shall be used to provide financial assistance in the  
19 form of scholarships to students who meet the requirements of  
20 subsection (b).



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1        (b) A student is eligible for scholarship consideration if  
2 the student meets the following requirements:

3        (1) Is enrolled at a University of Hawaii campus and  
4 qualifies for Hawaii resident tuition;

5        (2) Is enrolled in an undergraduate, graduate, or  
6 certificate program to teach secondary education in a  
7 STEM subject, as determined by the department;

8        (3) Maintains satisfactory academic progress, as defined  
9 by the federal title IV requirements and the program  
10 in which the student is enrolled;

11        (4) Completes and submits the Free Application for Federal  
12 Student Aid (FAFSA) each academic year, and accepts  
13 all federal and state aid, grants, scholarships, and  
14 other funding sources that do not require repayment;  
15 and

16        (5) 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  
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 in the Hawaii  
6 public school system for five of the ten years immediately  
7 following completion of their eligible program at the University  
8 of Hawaii. If a recipient fails to complete an eligible degree  
9 or certificate program, or to satisfy the teaching requirement  
10 within the allotted time, scholarship funds shall be repaid as  
11 follows:  
12           (1) For each year less than five years that a scholarship  
13           recipient does not teach in the Hawaii public school  
14           system, the recipient shall repay twenty per cent of  
15           the total scholarship funds received; and  
16           (2) The department shall set the terms and conditions for  
17           scholarship repayment, including circumstances under  
18           which recipients may be eligible for deferment or  
19           forgiveness due to hardship or inability to secure  
20           employment.



1        (e) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
2 91 to implement and administer the scholarship program.

3        (f) Moneys repaid by scholarship recipients pursuant to  
4 subsection (d) shall be deposited in the general fund.

5        (g) For purposes of this section:

6        "Department" means the department of education.

7        "Direct cost" means costs of tuition, fees, books,  
8 supplies, and transportation.

9        "STEM" means science, technology, engineering, and math."

10       SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,500,000 or so much  
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the  
13 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
14 2018-2019 for the establishment and implementation of the Hawaii  
15 STEM educator scholarship program.

16       The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
17 of education for the purposes of this Act.

18       SECTION 4: New statutory material is underscored.

19       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

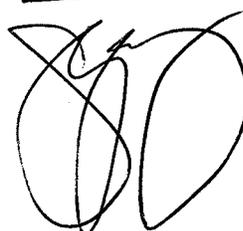
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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 1188

Francis Q. Brown  
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# S.B. NO. 1188

**Report Title:**

University of Hawaii; Scholarship; Education Majors; Teacher Shortages; STEM Teachers; DOE; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a STEM educator scholarship program to be administered by DOE to address the shortage of STEM teachers in secondary schools in Hawaii. Appropriates funds for the program for 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 fiscal years.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

