MAR 0 8 2019

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE OTHER PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENTS, THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR, THE OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, THE LEGISLATURE, AND THE JUDICIARY TO IMPLEMENT A PILOT FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM TO TRAIN NEW EMPLOYEES FOR GOVERNMENT JOBS.

WHEREAS, an informational briefing by the Senate Committee on Ways and Means on February 27, 2019, revealed that there were approximately three thousand five hundred vacant positions across the various state departments, with some departments employing less than seventy-five percent of their allocated positions; and

WHEREAS, many departments claim that their high vacancy rates are partially due to a lack of qualified candidates possessing the necessary expertise for the vacant job positions; and

WHEREAS, the State does not have a formal process to provide prospective employees with the necessary experiences and expertise for state government jobs; and

WHEREAS, proper job training that specifically teaches the necessary skill sets for a state job can help to reduce state job vacancies and increase retention rates; and

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019, that the Department of Human Resources Development, in conjunction with the other principal departments, Office of the Governor, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Legislature, and Judiciary are urged to establish a pilot fellowship program to train prospective employees for success in state government jobs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each prospective employee participating in the program be known as a fellow, the program for each fellow last no longer than twelve months, and the program provide each fellow with a monetary stipend, health

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benefits, and graduate credits from the University of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that fellows should be in a department or office of their preference, be trained in applicable skills and knowledge that can be used in government jobs, and be assigned significant tasks and duties as part of their duties; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ultimate goal of the pilot fellowship program should be to offer fellows a unique, first-hand experience in government, with the potential to be hired full-time upon completion of their fellowship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pilot fellowship program is requested to be dissolved on June 30, 2021; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Human Resources Development is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of the Regular Session of 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is also requested to include:

(1) The number of fellows that participated in the pilot fellowship program;

(2) The branches, departments, offices, or agencies that hosted fellows; and

(3) The number of fellows that obtained regular state employment after their completion of the pilot fellowship program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Human Resources Development; Comptroller; Chairperson of the Board of Agriculture; Attorney General; Director of Finance; Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Chairperson of the Board of

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Education; Superintendent of Education; Chairperson of the
Hawaiian Homes Commission; Director of Health; Director of Human
Services; Director of Labor and Industrial Relations;
Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources; Director of Public Safety; Director of Taxation; Director of
Transportation; and Chief Justice.

OFFERED BY:

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