

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO 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 HAWAII 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 the		
10	Federal Insurance Contributions Act.		
11	"Program" means the supporting employment empowerment		
12	Hawaii work program.		
13	§ -2 Authorization; program requirements. (a) The		
14	department is authorized to enact and operate a program focused		
15	on transitioning welfare recipients to the workforce, which		
16	shall be referred to as the supporting employment empowerment		
17	Hawaii work program.		

H.B. NO. 1664

1	(D)	The program authorized under this chapter sharr
2	incorpora	te the following features:
3	(1)	The department shall reimburse employers an additional
4		fourteen per cent of subsidized wages to cover
5		training and employment-related expenses;
6	(2)	The department may reimburse an employer up to \$200
7		per month, subject to negotiation with the employer,
8		when the employer assists an employee with
9		transportation to and from work;
10	(3)	The department shall prescreen job applicants for
11		potential employers based on the job needs, specific
12		skills, and qualifications provided by the employer
13	•	and an application completed by the job applicant;
14	(4)	The department shall accept both part-time, which
15		shall be classified as a position of at least twenty-
16		four hours per week, but no more than thirty hours per
17		week, and full-time job openings, which shall be
18		classified as a position of at least thirty hours per
19		week, from potential employers;

H.B. NO. 1664

1	(5)	The department shall impose no limitation on the	
2		number of job applicants that an employer may select	
3		from the program;	
4	(6)	The employer shall provide selected job applicants the	
5		prevailing industry wage and the same benefits it	
6		offers its employees in similar positions; and	
7	(7)	The department shall contract with a private	
8		employment service agency to market the program, take	
9		and fill job orders from companies, and provide	
10		ongoing support to employers and employees.	
11	(c)	The duration of the wage reimbursement authorized	
12	under sub	section (b) shall be no less than six months and no	
13	more than	twelve months.	
14	S	-3 Rulemaking. The department shall adopt rules	
15	pursuant	to chapter 91 necessary to implement this chapter,	
16	including	but not limited to rules that require any recipient of	
17	public assistance to be either employed, actively seeking		
18	employment, or enrolled in an education program or school to		
19	continue receiving public assistance."		
20	SECT	TION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.	
21			

HB HMS 2020-0072

INTRODUCED BY: Rich Cational Antewa

JAN 1 3 2020

H.B. NO. 1664

Report Title:

Supporting Employment Empowerment Hawaii Work Program; DHS

Description:

Authorizes the establishment of the Supporting Employment Empowerment Hawaii Work Program to transition public assistance recipients to the workforce.

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