

---

---

## 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 the State's high  
2 school students and adult education students would benefit from  
3 a work readiness preparation program. A close collaboration  
4 between educators and industry employers would ensure that  
5 students develop the skills and credentials needed to make them  
6 highly employable.

7           The legislature recognizes the benefit of allowing  
8 students, including students at adult and community schools, to  
9 earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-  
10 apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized  
11 certificates.

12           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish and  
13 appropriate funds for a workforce readiness program.

14           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new section to subpart C of part II to be  
16 appropriately designated and to read as follows:



1           "§302A- Workforce readiness program; established. (a)

2   There is established within the department a workforce readiness  
3   program to be administered by the adult and community education  
4   program.

5           (b) The department shall designate schools, including  
6   adult and community schools, that may participate in the  
7   program.

8           (c) Designated workforce readiness program schools shall  
9   provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, as  
10   well as workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship  
11   certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates that  
12   assess and document the student's readiness for a wide range of  
13   employment.

14           (d) The department may coordinate with the department of  
15   labor and industrial relations and the department of human  
16   services division of vocational rehabilitation and may enter  
17   into contracts with local industry employers, as appropriate, to  
18   develop and implement the workforce readiness program.

19           (e) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91  
20   for the purposes of this section."



# H.B. NO. 1915

1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much  
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the  
 4 development and implementation of the workforce readiness  
 5 program.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
 7 education for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.

10

INTRODUCED BY:




# H.B. NO. 1915

**Report Title:**

DOE; Workforce Readiness Program; Establishment; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes within the Department of Education a Workforce Readiness Program to provide opportunities for students to earn associate degrees, workforce development diplomas, pre-apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized certificates. Requires the department to designate schools, including adult community schools, to participate in the program. Appropriates funds.

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

