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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, in the current job  
2 market, nearly sixty-five per cent of available positions  
3 require postsecondary credentials. Industry-recognized  
4 credentials are important because they teach the specific  
5 knowledge and skills that are required for an occupation or  
6 industry. Full-time employees with industry credentials earn  
7 more than their uncredentialed counterparts, and, in some cases,  
8 the salaries of credential holders who do not hold college  
9 degrees are similar to the salaries of college graduates.

10           The legislature also finds that the State has critical  
11 shortages of qualified and credentialed workers in sectors  
12 including health, education, air travel, and technology. Given  
13 the recent downturn in the State's economy and the rise in  
14 unemployment, it is especially important for Hawaii to equip its  
15 students for the existing job market. To this end, the  
16 Promising Credentials project, a collaborative effort aimed at  
17 using Hawaii labor market data and local employer insights to



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1 identify high-value industry credentials in the State, was  
2 launched. This information will enable local career readiness  
3 programs to better tailor their offerings to Hawaii's job market  
4 and to deliver more effective services to both students and  
5 employers. However, there is a need for the data to be  
6 disaggregated by credential and to be consistently collected and  
7 reported by state agencies.

8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 9 (1) Require the state board for career and technical  
10 education to oversee and review annually the statewide  
11 data collection processes, reporting requirements, and  
12 business rules related to the student attainment of  
13 industry-recognized credentials;
- 14 (2) Require the state board for career and technical  
15 education to provide an annual report to the governor  
16 and the legislature on students' attainment of  
17 industry-recognized credentials; and
- 18 (3) Require all state agencies that administer educational  
19 or training courses that lead to, provide, or  
20 otherwise align with the attainment of an industry-



1            recognized credential to collect and report certain  
2            categories of data.

3            SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to subpart C of part I to be  
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6            "§304A-        Industry recognized credentials; data  
7 collection. (a) The board shall review annually the statewide  
8 data collection processes, reporting requirements, and business  
9 rules related to the student attainment of industry-recognized  
10 credentials. The board shall ensure consistent data collection  
11 and transparent reporting across all state educational systems  
12 and agencies.

13            (b) All state data collection processes, reporting  
14 requirements, and business rules shall support the collection of  
15 data on student-level, industry-recognized credential attainment  
16 that may be:

17            (1) Integrated into the State's secondary, postsecondary,  
18 and longitudinal educational data systems to evaluate  
19 the equity and efficacy of state credentialing  
20 programs; and



1        (2) Used to analyze the State's return on investment by  
2        matching data on industry-recognized credential  
3        attainment with data on wages, employment, and the  
4        completion of postsecondary education.

5        (c) All state agencies that administer an educational  
6        course or training program that leads to, provides, or otherwise  
7        aligns with the attainment of an industry-recognized credential  
8        shall collect and report to the board annual data on student-  
9        level credential attainment, including:

10       (1) The number of students who enrolled in an educational  
11       course, training program, career program,  
12       postsecondary program, or other State-supported  
13       workforce training program that provides an industry-  
14       recognized credential, disaggregated by career field;

15       (2) The number of students who attempted to earn each  
16       industry-recognized credential;

17       (3) The number of students who successfully earned each  
18       industry-recognized credential;

19       (4) The number of students who attempted or earned each  
20       professional credential not recognized as a "promising



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1           credential" by the executive advisory committee of the  
2           Promising Credentials project;

3           (5) The number of students who were awarded postsecondary  
4           credit for industry-recognized credentials through  
5           articulation or transfer agreements;

6           (6) The geographic information, course enrollment  
7           information, and demographic information that will  
8           allow the data to be disaggregated by student group,  
9           program, career cluster, district, school system,  
10          postsecondary institution, and other categories.

11          Demographic information tracked shall include the  
12          student's:

13           (A) Race;

14           (B) Gender;

15           (C) Family income;

16           (D) Disability status; and

17           (E) Primary language; and

18          (7) Any other data deemed necessary by the board.

19          (d) All state agencies that administer an educational  
20          course or training program that leads to, provides, or otherwise  
21          aligns with the attainment of an industry-recognized credential



1 shall pursue data-sharing agreements with the appropriate  
2 credentialing entities; provided that the agreements:

3       (1) Comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy  
4       Act and other applicable state and federal laws  
5       governing the privacy of student records;

6       (2) Share information on student credentialing exams,  
7       including raw scores, subsection scores, and other  
8       information related to exam performance and skill  
9       mastery;

10       (3) Provide sufficient student information to match  
11       credentialing data with other components of student  
12       records;

13       (4) Increase efficiency by sharing statewide data that  
14       spans secondary and postsecondary systems and  
15       students;

16       (5) Facilitate collaborations with other states to  
17       negotiate data-sharing agreements with credentialing  
18       entities that are consistent between states, to  
19       increase administrative efficiency; and

20       (6) Align information collected from students or  
21       candidates as part of the credentialing process with



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1           state agency data systems to allow for better matching  
2           within student and longitudinal information systems.

3           (e) Beginning on July 1, 2022, and no later than July 1 of  
4 each year thereafter, the board, in partnership with any  
5 agencies the board deems appropriate, shall submit a report to  
6 the governor and the legislature, providing the annual data  
7 required by subsection (c) and setting out the board's findings  
8 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation. The  
9 report shall disclose the sources of all data, including data  
10 obtained through direct agreements with the credentialing  
11 entities.

12           (f) The board's annual report shall be published digitally  
13 and shall be made available to all relevant stakeholders,  
14 including students and families, educators, employers, and  
15 community members.

16           (g) As used in this section:

17           "Board" means the state board for career and technical  
18 education.

19           "Industry-recognized credential" means a credential  
20 recognized as a "promising credential" by the executive advisory  
21 committee of the Promising Credentials project."



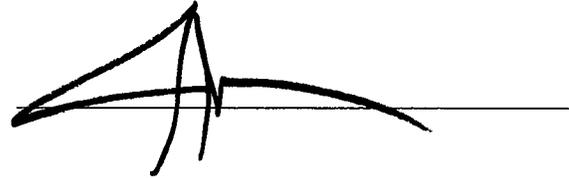
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1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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JAN 26 2021



# H.B. NO. 1223

**Report Title:**

Industry-Recognized Credentials; Data

**Description:**

Requires the State board for career and technical education to oversee and review annually statewide data collection processes and reporting requirements related to the student attainment of industry-recognized credentials. Requires certain agencies to collect and report disaggregated data on students' attainment of industry-recognized credentials. Requires certain agencies to pursue data-sharing agreements with credentialing entities. Requires an annual report to the governor and legislature.

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

