
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



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



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; provided that native Hawaiian demographic
14 data shall be disaggregated from other Pacific
15 Islanders;

16 (B) Gender;

17 (C) Family income;

18 (D) Disability status; and

19 (E) Primary language; and

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



1 (d) All state agencies that administer an educational
2 course or training program that leads to, provides, or otherwise
3 aligns with the attainment of an industry-recognized credential
4 shall pursue data-sharing agreements with the appropriate
5 credentialing entities; provided that the agreements:

6 (1) Comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy
7 Act and other applicable state and federal laws
8 governing the privacy of student records;

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

13 (3) Provide sufficient student information to match
14 credentialing data with other components of student
15 records;

16 (4) Increase efficiency by sharing statewide data that
17 spans secondary and postsecondary systems and
18 students;

19 (5) Facilitate collaborations with other states to
20 negotiate data-sharing agreements with credentialing



1 entities that are consistent between states, to

2 increase administrative efficiency; and

3 (6) Align information collected from students or

4 candidates as part of the credentialing process with

5 state agency data systems to allow for better matching

6 within student and longitudinal information systems.

7 (e) Beginning on July 1, 2022, and no later than July 1 of

8 each year thereafter, the board, in partnership with any

9 agencies the board deems appropriate, shall submit a report to

10 the governor and the legislature, providing the annual data

11 required by subsection (c) and setting out the board's findings

12 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation. The

13 report shall disclose the sources of all data, including data

14 obtained through direct agreements with the credentialing

15 entities.

16 (f) The board's annual report shall be published digitally

17 and shall be made available to all relevant stakeholders,

18 including students and families, educators, employers, and

19 community members.

20 (g) All data collection and reporting activity under this

21 section shall be conducted in a manner consistent with



1 applicable federal and state laws governing the privacy and
2 confidentiality of the data.

3 (h) As used in this section:

4 "Board" means the state board for career and technical
5 education.

6 "Industry-recognized credential" means a credential
7 recognized as a "promising credential" by the executive advisory
8 committee of the Promising Credentials project."

9 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



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.
(SD1)

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