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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, agriculture, and  
13 technology. Given the recent downturn in the State's economy  
14 and the rise in unemployment, it is especially important for  
15 Hawaii to equip its students for the existing job market. To  
16 this end, the Promising Credentials project, a collaborative  
17 effort aimed at using Hawaii labor market data and local



1 employer insights to identify high-value industry credentials in  
2 the State, was launched. This information will enable local  
3 career readiness programs to better tailor their offerings to  
4 Hawaii's job market and to deliver more effective services to  
5 both students and employers.

6 Act 163, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, which requires, in  
7 part, a statewide longitudinal data system, will better enable  
8 the department of education and employers to align offerings and  
9 opportunities based on data. The legislature believes that  
10 students and employers in Hawaii both benefit when career  
11 readiness programs at school prepare students based on regional  
12 needs.

13 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to create a career  
14 development success program to provide financial incentives for  
15 participating public high schools and charter schools to  
16 encourage pupils enrolled in grades nine through twelve to  
17 enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-  
18 credential programs.

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



1           "§302A-           Industry-recognized credentials; career  
2 development success program. (a) There is established within  
3 the department a career development success program to provide  
4 financial incentives for participating high schools to encourage  
5 students enrolled in grades nine through twelve in public high  
6 schools to enroll in and successfully complete qualified  
7 industry-credential programs.

8           (b) Beginning with the 2022-2023 fiscal year, each  
9 participating school may receive up to \$                   for each  
10 pupil who, in the preceding fiscal year, successfully completes  
11 a qualified industry-credential program.

12           (c) Each participating school may decide annually whether  
13 to participate in the career development success program.

14           (d) The department shall create a process with a deadline  
15 for participating schools to report student credential  
16 attainment.

17           (e) For each fiscal year, the department shall distribute  
18 to each participating school an amount equal to \$                     
19 multiplied by the number of pupils reported by the participating  
20 school as successfully earning an industry certificate by  
21 completing a qualified industry-credential program; provided



1 that a participating school shall not receive a distribution for  
2 more than ten per cent of the total number of completed industry  
3 certificates reported by the schools.

4 (f) For each fiscal year, the department shall distribute  
5 funds in the following order until all funds are disbursed:

6 (1) Based on the order received by the department, funds  
7 shall be distributed first to participating schools  
8 for all who attained Advanced Credentials on the  
9 Promising Credentials list;

10 (2) Based on the order received by the department, funds  
11 shall be distributed to participating schools for all  
12 who attained Door Opener Credentials on the Promising  
13 Credentials list;

14 (3) Based on the order received by the department, funds  
15 shall be distributed to participating schools for all  
16 who attained Springboard Credentials on the Promising  
17 Credentials list;

18 (4) Based on the order received by the department, funds  
19 shall be distributed to participating schools for all  
20 who attained Foundational Credentials on the Promising  
21 Credentials list; and



1        (5) Any remaining funds shall be deposited into the  
2                    general fund.

3        (g) Each participating school shall regularly communicate  
4 to all high school students the availability of qualified  
5 industry-credential programs and the benefits a student receives  
6 as a result of successfully completing one of the programs or  
7 courses. The participating school shall design the  
8 communications with students with the goal of increasing  
9 participation in the qualified industry-credential programs and  
10 courses across all student subgroups.

11        (h) As used in this section:

12        "Participating school" means a public high school that  
13 chooses to participate in the career development success program  
14 established pursuant to this section.

15        "Qualified industry-credential program" means a program  
16 where a student attains a credential that is included in the  
17 most current version of the Promising Credentials and  
18 Occupations in Hawaii list."

19        SECTION 3. Chapter 302D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
21 and to read as follows:



1           "§302D-           Industry-recognized credentials; career  
2 development success program. (a) There is established by the  
3 commission a career development success program to provide  
4 financial incentives for participating public charter schools to  
5 encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve in  
6 public charter schools to enroll in and successfully complete  
7 qualified industry-credential programs.

8           (b) Beginning with the 2022-2023 fiscal year, each  
9 participating school may receive up to \$                   for each  
10 pupil who, in the preceding fiscal year, successfully completes  
11 a qualified industry-credential program.

12           (c) Each participating school may decide annually whether  
13 to participate in the career development success program.

14           (d) The commission shall create a process with a deadline  
15 for participating schools to report student credential  
16 attainment.

17           (e) For each fiscal year, the commission shall distribute  
18 to each participating school an amount equal to \$                     
19 multiplied by the number of pupils reported by the participating  
20 school as successfully earning an industry certificate by  
21 completing a qualified industry-credential program; provided



1 that a participating school shall not receive a distribution for  
2 more than ten per cent of the total number of completed industry  
3 certificates reported by the schools.

4 (f) For each fiscal year, the commission shall distribute  
5 funds in the following order until all funds are disbursed:

6 (1) Based on the order received by the commission, funds  
7 shall be distributed first to participating schools  
8 for all who attained Advanced Credentials on the  
9 Promising Credentials list;

10 (2) Based on the order received by the commission, funds  
11 shall be distributed to participating schools for all  
12 who attained Door Opener Credentials on the Promising  
13 Credentials list;

14 (3) Based on the order received by the commission, funds  
15 shall be distributed to participating schools for all  
16 who attained Springboard Credentials on the Promising  
17 Credentials list;

18 (4) Based on the order received by the commission, funds  
19 shall be distributed to participating schools for all  
20 who attained Foundational Credentials on the Promising  
21 Credentials list; and



1        (5) Any remaining funds shall be deposited into the  
2                    general fund.

3        (g) Each participating school shall regularly communicate  
4 to all students in grades nine through twelve the availability  
5 of qualified industry-credential programs and the benefits a  
6 student receives as a result of successfully completing one of  
7 the programs or courses. The participating school shall design  
8 the communications with students with the goal of increasing  
9 participation in the qualified industry-credential programs and  
10 courses across all student subgroups.

11        (h) As used in this section:

12        "Participating school" means a public charter school that  
13 chooses to participate in the career development success program  
14 established pursuant to this section.

15        "Qualified industry-credential program" means a program  
16 where a student attains a credential that is included in the  
17 most current version of the Promising Credentials and  
18 Occupations in Hawaii list."

19        SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
21 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for





1 the career development success program established pursuant to  
2 section 2 of this Act.

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

5 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for  
8 the career development success program established pursuant to  
9 section 3 of this Act.


10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the state public  
11 charter school commission for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 6. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
14 provided that sections 4 and 5 shall take effect on July 1,  
15 2022.

16

INTRODUCED BY:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several sweeping strokes, positioned over a horizontal line.

JAN 19 2022



# H.B. NO. 1559

**Report Title:**

Industry-recognized Credentials; Career Development; Public High Schools; Public Charter Schools; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a career development success program to provide financial incentives for participating public high schools to encourage students enrolled in grades nine through twelve to enroll in and successfully complete qualified industry-credential programs. Establishes a similar program for public charter schools. 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.*

