
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:

- 14 (1) An adult workforce readiness program;
- 15 (2) One full-time equivalent adult workforce readiness
16 program coordinator for McKinley community school for
17 adults; and



1 (3) One full-time equivalent adult workforce readiness
2 program coordinator for Waipahu community school for
3 adults.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
6 and to read as follows:

7 "§302A- Adult workforce readiness program; established.

8 (a) There is established within the department an adult
9 workforce readiness program to be administered by the adult and
10 community education program.

11 (b) The department shall designate schools, including
12 adult and community schools, that may participate in the
13 program.

14 (c) Designated adult workforce readiness program schools
15 shall provide opportunities for students to earn associate
16 degrees, as well as workforce development diplomas, pre-
17 apprenticeship certificates, and other industry-recognized
18 certificates that assess and document the student's readiness
19 for a wide range of employment.

20 (d) The department may coordinate with the department of
21 labor and industrial relations and the department of human



1 services division of vocational rehabilitation and may enter
2 into contracts with local industry employers, as appropriate, to
3 develop and implement the workforce readiness program.

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

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
9 the development and implementation of the adult workforce
10 readiness program and to establish and hire two full-time
11 equivalent (2.0 FTE) adult workforce readiness program
12 coordinators to be placed at McKinley community school for
13 adults and Waipahu community school for adults.

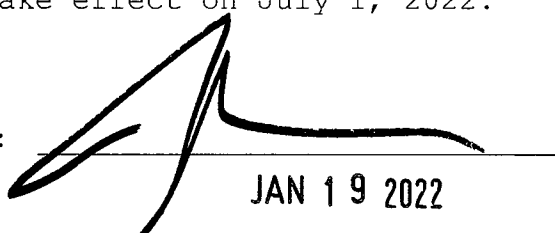
14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 education for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

18

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 19 2022



H.B. NO. 1561

Report Title:

Department of Education; Adult 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 for the workforce readiness program and two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) adult workforce readiness program coordinator positions.

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