
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the importance of a
3 quality education cannot be overstated. Significant research
4 has shown that the experiences of children and the environments
5 in which they develop have a lasting impact on their success
6 later in life.

7 The legislature further finds that the State faces a
8 critical shortage of workers in certain career fields. To
9 prevent disruptions in key sectors of the State's economy and to
10 ensure Hawaii's future prosperity, the State must implement
11 programs to connect youth to these high-demand career fields.

12 A profession in which the State faces a serious shortage of
13 qualified workers is teaching. The legislature finds that the
14 ability of the State to address the existing teacher shortage is
15 a matter of statewide concern.

16 Another industry that is realizing a rising need and will
17 contribute significant economic growth is renewable energy and



1 related industries that are synergistic in supporting the
2 industry and having a symbiotic and interdependent relationship
3 with it.

4 Noting these issues, the legislature recognizes that there
5 is a demand for innovative programs that address the education
6 needs of the State. One example of such a program is Waipahu
7 high school's academy of professional and public services, a
8 career academy that works to increase student achievement
9 through authentic and rigorous experiences in a wide variety of
10 fields, including finance, hospitality and tourism, business
11 management, marketing, culinary arts, law and justice, and
12 teacher education. The academy partners with working
13 professionals to allow students to learn relevant, industry-
14 standard skills. Another example of such a program is East
15 Hawaii high schools' academy of professional and public services
16 and career and technical education courses taught by Hawaii
17 community college that works to increase student achievement and
18 pathways to jobs in the renewable energy sector and a wide
19 variety of related fields such as welding, farming, forestry and
20 automotive technology. Coursework includes a high level of
21 hands-on experiences to prepare students for employment by



1 working with the industry through internships and mentoring to
2 allow students to learn relevant, industry-standard skills.
3 Students attend field trips and experience fieldwork for
4 practical hands-on opportunities as experiential learning. The
5 students earn dual-credit, applicable to high school and
6 college, towards a career and technical education degree, and
7 department of education teachers are also delivered competency-
8 based college credit curriculum. The legislature finds that
9 programs like Waipahu high school's academy of professional and
10 public services and East Hawaii high schools' coursework
11 delivered through the Hawaii community college should be
12 supported and expanded.

13 Programs having an early college component also provide the
14 State an opportunity to directly encourage youth to consider
15 careers in high-demand fields such as teaching. For example,
16 the State could expand accessibility to careers in these fields
17 by providing grants for high school students to enroll in
18 college courses that are directly applicable to degrees in high-
19 demand fields.

20 The legislature further finds that the Hawaii educator loan
21 program was established in 2001 to address the State's teacher



1 shortage by providing loans to students participating in teacher
2 education programs. Loan recipients who successfully complete
3 their teaching education program and go on to teach in a
4 position that meets the requirements of the program are eligible
5 for forgiveness of the loan. The legislature finds that
6 connecting graduates of Waipahu high school's academy of
7 professional and public services or similar programs at other
8 public schools with the Hawaii educator loan program could boost
9 participation in the Hawaii educator loan program and ultimately
10 help to ease the State's teacher shortage.

11 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish career
12 and technical education and other initiatives at the department
13 of education and the University of Hawaii to expand
14 opportunities for prospective future teachers as a model that
15 could be replicated for other high-demand career fields in the
16 future.

17 Specifically, this Act:

18 (1) Appropriates funds to the department of education to
19 establish a pilot program that provides grants for
20 high school students to enroll in college courses
21 through the running start program or other similar



1 programs that allow high school students to earn
2 college credits during academic year 2022-2023;
3 provided that:

4 (A) The student is currently enrolled in a career
5 academy program and pursuing a career and
6 technical education focused on career disciplines
7 of high need in the State, including teacher
8 education or a similar field; and

9 (B) The courses in which the student intends to
10 enroll are applicable to the requirements for an
11 associate degree in career disciplines of high
12 need, including teaching;

13 (2) Expands the eligibility of the Hawaii educator loan
14 program to include students who have completed a
15 teaching program at a career academy; provided that
16 the loan recipient agrees to teach for three years at
17 a public school in the State;

18 (3) Appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii educator
19 loan program revolving fund; and



1 (4) Requires the department of education and university of
2 Hawaii to evaluate the efficacy of this Act and
3 provide the legislature with recommendations to:

4 (A) Expand collaborations between career academies
5 and the community colleges that encourage
6 students to consider, and facilitate the
7 preparation of students for, careers in high-
8 demand fields besides education; and

9 (B) Improve access to early college programs through
10 distance learning.

11 PART II

12 SECTION 2. (a) As used in this Act:

13 "Career academy" means a program at a department of
14 education high school that:

15 (1) Allows students studying in cohorts to follow a
16 program of study in an academic or career and
17 technical subject;

18 (2) Follows a college-preparation curriculum along a
19 career theme;

20 (3) Includes the opportunity to enroll in early college
21 courses;



1 (4) Forges partnerships with employers, higher education
2 institutions, and the broader community; and

3 (5) Includes a sequenced, comprehensive work-based
4 learning component that:

5 (A) Demonstrates to students the applications of
6 academic and career and technical subjects to the
7 career or college field toward which they are
8 working; and

9 (B) Delivers work-based learning experiences,
10 including but not limited to shadowing, community
11 service, internships, mentoring, and
12 apprenticeships.

13 "Career and technical education" means a program at a
14 department of education high school that:

15 (1) Aligns with labor market needs to equip students with
16 twenty-first century skills and prepare them for in-
17 demand occupations in high-growth industry sectors;

18 (2) Collaborates among secondary and postsecondary
19 institutions, employers, and industry partners; and



1 (b) A person is eligible for the Hawaii educator loan
2 program if the person:

3 (1) Agrees to teach as a full-time teacher for a period of
4 time to be determined by the university prior to the
5 award of a loan, in:

6 [~~(1)~~] (A) The Hawaii public school system in a hard-
7 to-fill position including special education,
8 regular education shortage categories, or Title 1
9 schools, and in one of the following capacities:

10 [~~(A)~~] (i) As an elementary school teacher
11 teaching in the field of elementary
12 education who has met standards as set forth
13 by the Hawaii teacher standards board; or

14 [~~(B)~~] (ii) As a secondary school teacher teaching
15 in the subject area that is relevant to the
16 loan recipient's academic major as certified
17 by the department of education who has met
18 standards as set forth by the Hawaii teacher
19 standards board; or



1 ~~[(2)]~~ (B) At a school located in a rural area in the
2 State, as determined by the superintendent of
3 education~~[-];~~ or
4 (2) Has successfully completed a program in teacher
5 education at a career academy and agrees to teach as a
6 full-time teacher for a period of at least three years
7 at a public school in the State after the student
8 completes the state-approved teacher education
9 program; provided that a preference shall be given to
10 students who agree to teach in a hard-to-fill position
11 including special education, regular education
12 shortage categories, or Title I schools.
13 Eligibility shall be determined by the university on a
14 competitive basis. The amount to be loaned to a student shall
15 be determined by the board of regents based on need for
16 financial aid and proof of acceptance into a state-approved
17 teacher education program at the university. The maximum amount
18 of loans that a student may receive under this program shall be
19 an aggregate amount equivalent to tuition payments and costs of
20 textbooks and other instructional materials necessary to
21 complete a state-approved teacher education program.



1 [~~(b)~~] (c) All loans made under this subpart shall bear
2 interest at five per cent simple interest. Repayment of
3 principal and interest charges shall commence one year after
4 graduation or three months after a loan recipient ceases to be
5 enrolled in a state-approved teacher education program and shall
6 be paid in periodic installments within a seven-year period.
7 The university may charge late fees and all other reasonable
8 costs for the collection of delinquent loans.

9 [~~(e)~~] (d) The university shall adopt rules to implement
10 the educator loan program. The rules shall be adopted pursuant
11 to chapter 91, but shall be exempt from the public notice and
12 public hearing requirements.

13 [~~(d)~~] (e) Liability for repayment of a loan shall be
14 canceled upon the death or permanent total disability of the
15 borrower.

16 [~~(e)~~] (f) Upon a showing of proof that the loan recipient
17 has completed a state-approved teacher education program and for
18 each year that the loan award recipient teaches in the Hawaii
19 public school system pursuant to subsection [~~(a) (1) or (2),~~
20 (b)], loan forgiveness shall be provided to the recipient as
21 follows:



H.B. NO. 2350

1 (1) Ten per cent of the total amount of the loan award and
2 interest shall be waived every year for the first five
3 years of repayment; and

4 (2) Twenty-five per cent of the total amount of the loan
5 award and interest shall be waived every year for the
6 sixth and seventh years of repayment.

7 ~~(f)~~ (g) If a loan recipient who is a graduate of a
8 state-approved teacher education program subject to this section
9 and teaching pursuant to subsection ~~(a)~~ (b) fails to teach in
10 the Hawaii public school system for the minimum number of years,
11 as determined by subsection (b) (2) or by the university prior to
12 the loan, from the recipient's original date of employment with
13 the department of education, excluding temporary leaves of
14 absence, then the recipient shall repay any remaining loan
15 balance at the rate of ten per cent simple interest.

16 ~~(g)~~ (h) In accordance with chapter 103D, the university
17 may enter into written contracts with collection agencies for
18 the purpose of collecting delinquent loans. All payments
19 collected, exclusive of a collection agency's commissions, shall
20 revert, and be credited, to the Hawaii educator loan program
21 revolving fund. A collection agency that enters into a written



1 contract with the university for the collection of delinquent
2 loans pursuant to this section may collect a commission from the
3 debtor in accordance with the terms of, and up to the amounts
4 authorized in, the written contract.

5 (i) As used in this section, "career academy" means a
6 program at a department of education high school that:

7 (1) Allows students studying in cohorts to follow a
8 program of study in an academic or career and
9 technical subject;

10 (2) Follows a college-preparation curriculum along a
11 career theme;

12 (3) Includes the opportunity to enroll in early college
13 courses;

14 (4) Forges partnerships with employers, higher education
15 institutions, and the broader community; and

16 (5) Includes a sequenced, comprehensive work-based
17 learning component that:

18 (A) Demonstrates to students the applications of
19 academic subjects to the career or college field
20 toward which they are working; and



H.B. NO. 2350

1 participated in the programs established or expanded
2 by this Act;

3 (2) Findings and recommendations, including any proposed
4 legislation;

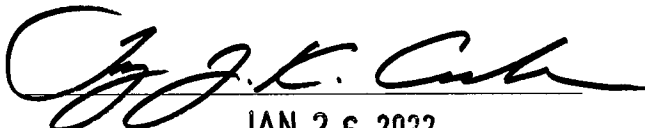
5 (3) A recommendation to continue, expand, or dissolve the
6 pilot program established by section 3 of this Act;

7 (4) Recommendations to expand collaborations between
8 career academies, career and technical education, and
9 community colleges, including early college programs,
10 that encourage students to consider, and facilitate
11 the preparation of students for, careers in high-
12 demand fields besides education; and

13 (5) Recommendations to improve access to the running start
14 dual credit program established pursuant to section
15 304A-803, Hawaii Revised Statutes, or similar early
16 college programs through distance learning.

17 SECTION 9. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

19
INTRODUCED BY: 
JAN 26 2022



H.B. NO. 2350

Report Title:

Education; DOE; UH; Teachers; Grants for Early College; Career Academies; Career and Technical Education; Hawaii Educator Loan Program; Appropriation

Description:

Requires DOE to establish a pilot program that provides grants for high school students enrolled in a career and technical education or career academy program to enroll in college courses through the running start program or other similar programs that allow students to earn college credits that are applicable to the requirements for a career discipline of high need, including teaching and renewable energy and related industries. Appropriates funds for the pilot program. Expands the eligibility criteria for the Hawaii educator loan program to include students who have graduated from a career academy; provided that the loan recipient agrees to teach for three years at a public school in the State. Appropriates funds into and out of the Hawaii educator loan program revolving fund. Requires reports to the legislature.

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

