A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EDUCATION.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a
- 2 persistent shortage of teachers for Hawaii's public schools.
- 3 This measure would establish a public education scholarship
- 4 program to provide financial assistance at the university level
- 5 for students in pursuit of educational degrees. In return,
- 6 scholarship recipients would agree to give back by teaching in a
- 7 public school classroom in the State for a fixed period of
- 8 years. As a means to address the statewide shortage of public
- 9 educators, the legislature finds that this measure addresses an
- 10 issue of statewide concern.
- 11 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 12 amended by adding a new section to subpart B of part II to be
- 13 appropriately designated and to read as follows:
- 14 "§304A- Public education scholarship program. (a)
- 15 There is established the public education scholarship program to
- 16 be administered by the university of Hawaii. The program shall
- 17 pay for the tuition of a student in return for the student's

1 service commitment to teach in a public school classroom of the 2 department of education or a Hawaii public charter school; 3 provided that the student is a resident of the State. 4 (b) The public education scholarship program shall cover 5 the cost of tuition for four years of enrollment at the 6 university of Hawaii needed to complete a bachelor's degree in education; provided that a recipient shall receive not more than 8 from the program; provided further that a recipient 9 who fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress or does not 10 receive an education degree upon graduation shall be terminated 11 from the program and shall be required to repay the portion of 12 the scholarship already dispensed on the recipient's behalf. 13 (c) Recipients shall be required to complete not more than 14 seven years of teaching within the ten years following 15 graduation and having obtained a license from the Hawaii teacher 16 standards board in a public school classroom of the department 17 of education or a Hawaii public charter school. If a recipient 18 fails to complete the required service commitment, the recipient 19 shall reimburse the university of Hawaii for the full amount of

the award received from the program.

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1 (d) The amount of scholarship funds awarded annually to 2 recipients by the university of Hawaii shall not exceed 3 4 (e) The university of Hawaii shall establish the necessary 5 policies and procedures to implement and sustain the public 6 education scholarship program, including application procedures, 7 eligibility requirements, and standards to determine which 8 applicants are awarded scholarships." 9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so 11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and 12 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal 13 year 2024-2025 for the public education scholarship program 14 established pursuant to this Act. 15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the university 16 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act. 17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.

Report Title:

Public School Education; Scholarship; Tuition; University of Hawaii; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the Public Education Scholarship Program within the University of Hawaii to provide students who are residents of the State with school tuition in return for a service commitment to teach in a public school classroom of the Department of Education or Hawaii public charter school, under certain conditions. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000. (SD1)

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