

JAN 17 2025

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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 a main goal of the  
2 department of education's State of Hawaii public education 2023-  
3 2029 strategic plan is to have "all students graduate high  
4 school prepared for college and career success and community and  
5 civic engagement." As part of this goal, an action item in the  
6 strategic plan includes "expand[ing] students' opportunities for  
7 structured work-based learning experiences, including  
8 internships for high school students, through partnerships with  
9 employers, community partners, military and higher education  
10 institutions."

11           To achieve the goals set forth in the strategic plan, the  
12 department of education is actively pursuing internships for  
13 students, including graduating high school students. However,  
14 the department finds that once students graduate from high  
15 school, they are no longer considered a student and are not  
16 covered for workers' compensation while they are participating



1 in a department-sponsored work-based learning opportunity during  
2 the summer following graduation.

3 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to allow newly  
4 graduated former students to be eligible for workers'  
5 compensation coverage during the summer following their high  
6 school graduation while participating in work-based learning  
7 programs sponsored by the department of education.

8 SECTION 2. Section 302A-430, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "**§302A-430 Coverage for workers' compensation.** Whenever a  
11 student or a new high school graduate participating in a school-  
12 approved work-based learning program sponsored by the department  
13 [~~of education~~] or a student participating in a school-approved  
14 work-based learning program sponsored by the [University]  
15 university of Hawaii undertakes to perform work for a private or  
16 public employer as part of the student's or new high school  
17 graduate's work-based learning program, whether paid or unpaid,  
18 the State shall be deemed to be the responsible employer for the  
19 purposes of workers' compensation coverage[~~7~~]; provided that no  
20 coverage under this section shall be provided beyond July 31 of  
21 the student's or the new high school graduate's high school



1 graduation year, and that coverage shall be the student's or the  
2 new high school graduate's exclusive remedy to the same extent  
3 as provided for in chapter 386 as against the State and the  
4 private employer participating in the program."

5 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**

DOE; Workers' Compensation; Work-based Internships

**Description:**

Allows newly graduated high school students to be eligible for workers' compensation coverage during the summer following their high school graduation while participating in Department of Education-sponsored work-based learning programs.

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

