
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 76-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
3
4 " (b) The civil service to which this chapter applies shall
5 comprise all positions in the State now existing or hereafter
6 established and embrace all personal services performed for the
7 State, except the following:
8
9 (1) Commissioned and enlisted personnel of the Hawaii
10 National Guard and positions in the Hawaii National
11 Guard that are required by state or federal laws or
12 regulations or orders of the National Guard to be
13 filled from those commissioned or enlisted personnel;
14
15 (2) Positions filled by persons employed by contract where
16 the director of human resources development has
17 certified that the service is special or unique or is
essential to the public interest and that, because of
circumstances surrounding its fulfillment, personnel
to perform the service cannot be obtained through



normal civil service recruitment procedures. Any contract may be for any period not exceeding one year;

- (3) Positions that must be filled without delay to comply with a court order or decree if the director determines that recruitment through normal recruitment civil service procedures would result in delay or noncompliance, such as the Felix-Cayetano consent decree;
- (4) Positions filled by the legislature or by either house or any committee thereof;
- (5) Employees in the office of the governor and office of the lieutenant governor, and household employees at Washington Place;
- (6) Positions filled by popular vote;
- (7) Department heads, officers, and members of any board, commission, or other state agency whose appointments are made by the governor or are required by law to be confirmed by the senate;
- (8) Judges, referees, receivers, masters, jurors, notaries public, land court examiners, court commissioners, and



1 attorneys appointed by a state court for a special
2 temporary service;

3 (9) One bailiff for the chief justice of the supreme court
4 who shall have the powers and duties of a court
5 officer and bailiff under section 606-14; one
6 secretary or clerk for each justice of the supreme
7 court, each judge of the intermediate appellate court,
8 and each judge of the circuit court; one secretary for
9 the judicial council; one deputy administrative
10 director of the courts; three law clerks for the chief
11 justice of the supreme court, two law clerks for each
12 associate justice of the supreme court and each judge
13 of the intermediate appellate court, one law clerk for
14 each judge of the circuit court, two additional law
15 clerks for the civil administrative judge of the
16 circuit court of the first circuit, two additional law
17 clerks for the criminal administrative judge of the
18 circuit court of the first circuit, one additional law
19 clerk for the senior judge of the family court of the
20 first circuit, two additional law clerks for the civil
21 motions judge of the circuit court of the first



1 circuit, two additional law clerks for the criminal
2 motions judge of the circuit court of the first
3 circuit, and two law clerks for the administrative
4 judge of the district court of the first circuit; and
5 one private secretary for the administrative director
6 of the courts, the deputy administrative director of
7 the courts, each department head, each deputy or first
8 assistant, and each additional deputy, or assistant
9 deputy, or assistant defined in paragraph (16);
10 (10) First deputy and deputy attorneys general, the
11 administrative services manager of the department of
12 the attorney general, one secretary for the
13 administrative services manager, an administrator and
14 any support staff for the criminal and juvenile
15 justice resources coordination functions, and law
16 clerks;
17 (11) (A) Teachers, principals, vice-principals, complex
18 area superintendents, deputy and assistant
19 superintendents, other certificated personnel,
20 and no more than twenty noncertificated



1 administrative, professional, and technical
2 personnel not engaged in instructional work;

3 (B) Effective July 1, 2003, teaching assistants,
4 educational assistants, bilingual or bicultural
5 school-home assistants, school psychologists,
6 psychological examiners, speech pathologists,
7 athletic health care trainers, alternative school
8 work study assistants, alternative school
9 educational or supportive services specialists,
10 alternative school project coordinators, and
11 communications aides in the department of
12 education;

13 (C) The special assistant to the state librarian and
14 one secretary for the special assistant to the
15 state librarian; and

16 (D) Members of the faculty of the university of
17 Hawaii, including research workers, extension
18 agents, personnel engaged in instructional work,
19 and administrative, professional, and technical
20 personnel of the university;



1 (12) Employees engaged in special, research, or
2 demonstration projects approved by the governor;

3 (13) (A) Positions filled by inmates, patients of state
4 institutions, and persons with severe physical or
5 mental disabilities participating in the work
6 experience training programs;

7 (B) Positions filled with students in accordance with
8 guidelines for established state employment
9 programs; and

10 (C) Positions that provide work experience training
11 or temporary public service employment that are
12 filled by persons entering the workforce or
13 persons transitioning into other careers under
14 programs such as the federal Workforce Investment
15 Act of 1998, as amended, or the Senior Community
16 Service Employment Program of the Employment and
17 Training Administration of the United States
18 Department of Labor, or under other similar state
19 programs;

20 (14) A custodian or guide at Iolani Palace, the Royal
21 Mausoleum, and Hulihee Palace;



1 (15) Positions filled by persons employed on a fee,
2 contract, or piecework basis, who may lawfully perform
3 their duties concurrently with their private business
4 or profession or other private employment and whose
5 duties require only a portion of their time, if it is
6 impracticable to ascertain or anticipate the portion
7 of time to be devoted to the service of the State;

8 (16) Positions of first deputies or first assistants of
9 each department head appointed under or in the manner
10 provided in section 6, article V, of the Hawaii State
11 Constitution; three additional deputies or assistants
12 either in charge of the highways, harbors, and
13 airports divisions or other functions within the
14 department of transportation as may be assigned by the
15 director of transportation, with the approval of the
16 governor; one additional deputy in the department of
17 human services either in charge of welfare or other
18 functions within the department as may be assigned by
19 the director of human services; four additional
20 deputies in the department of health, each in charge
21 of one of the following: behavioral health,



1 environmental health, hospitals, and health resources
2 administration, including other functions within the
3 department as may be assigned by the director of
4 health, with the approval of the governor; two
5 additional deputies in charge of the law enforcement
6 programs, administration, or other functions within
7 the department of law enforcement as may be assigned
8 by the director of law enforcement, with the approval
9 of the governor; three additional deputies each in
10 charge of the correctional institutions,
11 rehabilitation services and programs, and
12 administration or other functions within the
13 department of corrections and rehabilitation as may be
14 assigned by the director of corrections and
15 rehabilitation, with the approval of the governor; two
16 administrative assistants to the state librarian; and
17 an administrative assistant to the superintendent of
18 education;

19 (17) Positions specifically exempted from this part by any
20 other law; provided that:





1 in any housing project maintained or operated by the
2 authority shall be hired under the tenant hire
3 program;

4 (22) Positions of the federally funded expanded food and
5 nutrition program of the university of Hawaii that
6 require the hiring of nutrition program assistants who
7 live in the areas they serve;

8 (23) Positions filled by persons with severe disabilities
9 who are certified by the state vocational
10 rehabilitation office that they are able to perform
11 safely the duties of the positions;

12 (24) The sheriff;

13 (25) A gender and other fairness coordinator hired by the
14 judiciary;

15 (26) Positions in the Hawaii National Guard youth and adult
16 education programs;

17 (27) In the Hawaii state energy office in the department of
18 business, economic development, and tourism, all
19 energy program managers, energy program specialists,
20 energy program assistants, and energy analysts;



- 1 (28) Administrative appeals hearing officers in the
- 2 department of human services;
- 3 (29) In the Med-QUEST division of the department of human
- 4 services, the division administrator, finance officer,
- 5 health care services branch administrator, medical
- 6 director, and clinical standards administrator;
- 7 (30) In the director's office of the department of human
- 8 services, the enterprise officer, information security
- 9 and privacy compliance officer, security and privacy
- 10 compliance engineer, security and privacy compliance
- 11 analyst, information technology implementation
- 12 manager, assistant information technology
- 13 implementation manager, resource manager, community or
- 14 project development director, policy director, special
- 15 assistant to the director, and limited English
- 16 proficiency project manager or coordinator;
- 17 (31) The Alzheimer's disease and related dementia services
- 18 coordinator in the executive office on aging;
- 19 (32) In the Hawaii emergency management agency, the
- 20 executive officer, public information officer, civil
- 21 defense administrative officer, branch chiefs, and



emergency operations center state warning point personnel; provided that for state warning point personnel, the director shall determine that recruitment through normal civil service recruitment procedures would result in delay or noncompliance;

- (33) The executive director and seven full-time administrative positions of the school facilities authority;
- (34) Positions in the Mauna Kea stewardship and oversight authority;
- (35) In the office of homeland security of the department of law enforcement, the statewide interoperable communications coordinator;
- (36) In the social services division of the department of human services, the business technology analyst;
- (37) The executive director and staff of the 911 board;
- (38) The software developer supervisor and senior software developers in the department of taxation;
- (39) In the department of law enforcement, five Commissioners on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., coordinator positions;



1 (40) The state fire marshal and deputy state fire marshal
2 in the office of the state fire marshal;

3 (41) The administrator for the law enforcement standards
4 board;

5 (42) In the office of the director of taxation, the data
6 privacy officer and tax business analysts; [and]

7 (43) All positions filled by the Hawaii tourism authority
8 within the department of business, economic
9 development, and tourism[.];

10 (44) In the developmental disabilities division of the
11 department of health, the federal initiatives
12 operations coordinator; and

13 (45) In the Hawaii state hospital, five associate
14 administrators, two project managers, one security
15 manager, two security officers, one building manager,
16 and two investigators.

17 The director shall determine the applicability of this
18 section to specific positions.

19 Nothing in this section shall be deemed to affect the civil
20 service status of any incumbent as it existed on July 1, 1955."



1 SECTION 2. Section 334-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"\$334-4 Personnel for mental health program.** The director
4 shall appoint professional and nonprofessional staff as the
5 director deems necessary to carry out the state mental health
6 program and for which appropriations are available. Positions
7 for psychiatrists are exempted from chapter 76. The director
8 may employ psychiatrists as needed by the department on a
9 contractual basis, subject to the approval of the governor. The
10 director may appoint an administrator, [three] five associate
11 administrators, a director of psychosocial rehabilitation, a
12 chief of the department of nursing, a risk manager, a patients'
13 rights advisor, two project managers, and a facilities plant
14 engineer for the state hospital or a secure psychiatric
15 rehabilitation facility established pursuant to this chapter and
16 these positions shall be exempt from chapter 76."

17 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



H.B. NO. 1541

1

INTRODUCED BY:

George Roper

JAN 14 2026



H.B. NO. 1541

Report Title:

Department of Health; Developmental Disabilities Division; Hawaii State Hospital; Positions; Civil Service Exemptions

Description:

Exempts certain positions in the Developmental Disabilities Division of the Department of Health and Hawaii State Hospital from civil service. Authorizes the Director of Health to appoint two additional associate administrators and two project managers for the Hawaii State Hospital or a secure psychiatric rehabilitation facility.

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