

JAN 21 2026

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a significant number  
2 of government positions are funded but currently vacant, and  
3 that they have remained so for multiple years.

4 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to eliminate  
5 wasteful spending by requiring the abolishment of any public  
6 employment position that has been vacant for more than five  
7 years if the hiring department or agency has not certified that  
8 they are awaiting approval to hire for that position.

9 SECTION 2. Section 26-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11 " (a) The department of human resources development shall  
12 be headed by a single executive to be known as the director of  
13 human resources development. The director shall:

14 (1) Facilitate and expedite the hiring and recruitment for  
15 civil service positions under the jurisdiction of the  
16 department of human resources development; and



1 (2) Have the authority to reclassify and abolish vacant  
2 positions within state departments and agencies that  
3 are under the jurisdiction of the department of human  
4 resources development, subject to the following  
5 conditions:

6 (A) [Prior to] Except as provided in subparagraph  
7 (C); before reclassifying or abolishing any  
8 vacant position as provided under this paragraph,  
9 the director shall submit a report to the  
10 legislature no later than twenty days prior to  
11 each regular session[. The report shall include  
12 a list of vacant positions for reclassification  
13 or abolition, identify the agency each position  
14 is attached to, provide reasons for reclassifying  
15 or abolishing the position, and state the  
16 duration that the position has been vacant; and];

17 (B) The director may reclassify or abolish any vacant  
18 position as provided under this paragraph no  
19 earlier than sixty days after the report has been  
20 submitted to the legislature as provided under  
21 subparagraph (A) [.]





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 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  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

**5** SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Garrett R. Fawcett



# S.B. NO. 2014

**Report Title:**

DHRD; Vacant Positions; Reclassification; Abolishment; Report; General Fund

**Description:**

Requires the Director of Human Resources Development to abolish vacant positions within state departments and agencies under its jurisdiction that have been vacant for more than 5 years. Requires a list of positions abolished to be included in the Director's annual report to the Legislature. Requires funds for abolished positions to immediately lapse to the credit of the general fund.

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

