
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENT OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 78-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "~~§~~78-32~~§~~ **Payment of approved travel costs for public**
4 **officers and employees.** (a) This section shall apply to all
5 approved travel costs incurred by an officer or employee of the
6 State or a county in connection with the official business of
7 the respective jurisdiction.

8 (b) Subject to subsection (d), the State and the counties
9 may pay approved travel costs directly to:

10 (1) The vendor providing the goods or services involved;

11 ~~or~~

12 (2) The officer or employee for whom the approved travel
13 costs are to be paid, by way of a cash advance ~~[prior~~
14 ~~to]~~ before the date of purchase~~{, unless the officer~~
15 ~~or employee affirmatively agrees to loan the State or~~
16 ~~a county the money for the travel costs and be~~
17 ~~reimbursed after the officer or employee pays for the~~
18 ~~travel costs.]; or~~



1 (3) The officer or employee when the officer or employee
2 affirmatively agrees to loan the State or a county the
3 money for the travel costs and be reimbursed after the
4 officer or employee pays for the travel costs.

5 (c) This section shall not be construed as precluding the
6 reimbursement of approved travel costs to an officer or employee
7 upon completion of travel for any costs that for any reason were
8 not paid by the State or the county, as applicable, in
9 accordance with subsection (b).

10 (d) As pertains to the officer or employee incurring
11 approved travel costs, whenever there is a conflict between a
12 collective bargaining agreement and this section, the terms of
13 the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail.

14 (e) For the purposes of this section, "approved travel
15 costs" means any determinable costs of travel for official state
16 or county business approved by the respective jurisdiction and
17 supported by a written invoice. The term includes the costs of
18 transportation to and from a destination point, between
19 destination points, or within a destination point; event
20 registration fees; per diem allowances; vehicle mileage; and any
21 other necessary costs related to the travel.



1 (f) An employer shall not take adverse employment actions
2 against an officer or employee who does not affirmatively agree
3 to loan the State or a county the money for the travel costs and
4 be reimbursed after the officer or employee pays for the travel
5 costs.

6 (g) Whenever an officer or employee affirmatively agrees
7 to loan the State or a county the money for travel costs
8 pursuant to subsection (b), the State or county shall reimburse
9 the officer or employee within thirty calendar days after the
10 officer or employee submits an approved statement of completed
11 travel or similar document with detailed expenditures and
12 related receipts.

13 If the State or a county is unable to reimburse the officer
14 or employee within thirty calendar days of when the officer or
15 employee submits an approved statement of completed travel or
16 similar document, the State or a county shall pay interest, at a
17 rate determined by the comptroller, on the total amount owed to
18 the officer or employee until the loan is fully reimbursed.

19 (h) Whenever an officer or employee affirmatively agrees
20 to loan the State or a county the money in accordance with
21 subsection (b) and in the event the officer's or employee's



1 approved travel is canceled or if the officer or employee can no
2 longer participate in the approved travel, through no fault of
3 their own, the officer or employee shall attempt to obtain a
4 complete refund on all approved travel costs from the vendor.
5 However, if a vendor refund is not available, then the officer
6 or employee shall be entitled to reimbursement from the State or
7 a county with the submittal of detailed expenditures and related
8 receipts on the approved portion of the travel only. If the
9 officer or employee receives only a partial refund on the
10 approved total cost from the vendor, then the officer or
11 employee shall be entitled to reimbursement from the State or a
12 county for the difference between the approved total cost of the
13 travel and the amount reimbursed by the vendor, excluding
14 personal deviation costs, with the submittal of detailed
15 expenditures and related receipts."

16 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2077.
19



Report Title:

Reimbursement; Public Employees; Travel Costs; Interest Owed

Description:

Requires the State or a county to reimburse an officer or employee for work-related travel costs that the officer or employee loaned to the State or a county within 30 calendar days of submitting an approved Statement of Completed Travel with detailed expenditures and related receipts. Requires the State or a county to pay interest on a loan not reimbursed within 30 days until the loan is fully reimbursed. Obligates an officer or employee to request a complete refund from the travel vendor for travel not taken through no fault of their own, and entitles an officer or employee to reimbursement from the State or a county when a travel vendor offers no or a partial refund. Effective 1/1/2077. (SD1)

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