

A Bill for an Act Relating to Certain Employees in the Division of Milk Control of the Department of Agriculture.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to amend section 157-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to provide civil service status to certain employees in the division of milk control of the department of agriculture.

SECTION 2. Section 157-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

**“§157-12 Assistants and employees; appointment, duties, and compensation.** The [commissioner] board of agriculture may [, with the approval of the board,] employ[, by special contract or otherwise,] and remove such assistants and employees as may be necessary to carry out this chapter and amendments thereto, prescribe their powers and duties, and fix their compensation. They shall [not] be subject to chapters 76 and 77[.]; provided that the commissioner shall not be subject to chapters 76 and 77.”

SECTION 3. The employees in the division of milk control, other than the commissioner, currently not in civil service and occupying permanent positions shall be converted to permanent civil service status within the meaning of chapters 76 and 77, Hawaii Revised Statutes, without the necessity of examination, and shall be accorded all the rights, benefits, and privileges attributable thereto. Those rights, benefits, and privileges shall include seniority, prior service credits, vacation and sick leave credits, and other rights, benefits, and privileges accorded employees with civil service status. Positions held by employees converted to civil service status shall be assigned by the director of personnel services to appropriate classes in the position classification plan, and the employees shall be paid in accordance with the salary ranges to which the classes are assigned; provided that employees receiving a salary above the minimum rate may be paid at a rate higher than the minimum rate but not exceeding the highest pay rate in the appropriate salary range.

SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.

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

(Approved April 13, 1984.)