

ACT 343

H.B. NO. 2032

A Bill for an Act Relating to School-to-Work Opportunities.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii and the rest of the states are undertaking a major initiative that involves reforming education, developing its workforce, and stimulating economic development. The states are attempting to create a school-to-work system that all major industrialized countries have in place except for the United States. To help accomplish this, Congress enacted the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994, P.L. 103-239. Hawaii will receive \$10,200,000 over a five-year period to build a school-to-work system.

Building a school-to-work opportunities system is a difficult and enormous undertaking. It requires systemic change and involvement of all segments of the community in the effort, particularly business, industry, and labor. Moreover, it must

involve all of education from kindergarten to postsecondary education, all academic and vocational disciplines, and all students.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a school-to-work opportunities system in Hawaii, including the mechanism for governance, management, and distribution of federal and state resources.

SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“PART . SCHOOL TO WORK OPPORTUNITIES PILOT PROJECT

§302A- Hawaii school-to-work opportunities executive council; establishment; composition. (a) There is established a Hawaii school-to-work opportunities executive council. The members of the council shall be appointed by the governor. The council shall consist of up to, but not more than, twenty-one members. Council membership shall consist of six executive heads of state agencies, the superintendent of the department of education, the president of the University of Hawaii, the state director of vocational education, and the directors of the departments of business, economic development and tourism, human services, and labor and industrial relations, serving as ex officio voting members. Representatives from local or regional partnerships, a student member, and a voting majority representing business, industry, labor, and community organizations which include regional representations from all counties shall be appointed pursuant to section 26-34.

The length of service for the directors of departments of the State represented on the council shall be limited to the terms of their cabinet appointments. The terms of all non-state agency head members shall be for three years, commencing on July 1 of the first year and ending on June 30, of the third year. Terms shall be staggered with one-third of the members being appointed in each fiscal year.

(b) Vacancies shall be filled by the governor for the unexpired term. The governor shall appoint as chairperson of the council a member other than a state agency head who shall be recommended by the council.

(c) The council members shall serve without pay but shall be entitled to their traveling expenses within the State when attending meetings of the council or when actually engaged in business relating to the work of the council.

§302A- Powers of the council. The powers of the Hawaii school-to-work opportunities executive council shall include, but not be limited to:

- (1) Establishing and setting the general directions and policy for the Hawaii school-to-work opportunities system, its council, and executive director;
- (2) Appointing, supervising, and if necessary, discharging the executive director, not subject to chapters 76 and 77;
- (3) Establishing rules and procedures regarding its membership and operations;
- (4) Approving expenditure plans and award grants/contracts;
- (5) Ratifying the establishment of all necessary standing and ad hoc committees; and
- (6) Engaging in such activities as may be necessary or desirable to implement the functions of the School-to-Work Opportunities Act of 1994, and of the council or through delegation to the executive director.

§302A- Staff. The Hawaii school-to-work opportunities executive council may appoint such staff as deemed necessary, not subject to chapters 76 and 77, to

carry out its functions and duties. The staff of the council shall report to the executive director.

§302A- Contracts. The Hawaii school-to-work opportunities executive council or its executive director may make, execute, enter into, amend, supplement, and carry out contracts, and all other instruments the council finds are necessary or convenient for the fulfillment of its functions and duties.

§302A- Organizational relationships. The Hawaii school-to-work opportunities executive council shall act as the governing board for the school-to-work system. The Hawaii school-to-work opportunities council and staff shall be placed within the department of education for administrative purposes.”

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1997-1998 and the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1998-1999 to provide funds for the school-to-work opportunities pilot project. The funds may be used to establish positions to carry out the council’s responsibilities relating to school-based learning, work-based learning, evaluation, and fiscal accounting and administration.

SECTION 4. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of education for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1997.

(Approved July 2, 1997.)