

## ACT 163

S.B. NO. 516

A Bill for an Act Relating to Education.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that, in the current job market, nearly sixty-five per cent of available positions require postsecondary credentials. Industry-recognized credentials are important because they teach the specific knowledge and skills that are required for an occupation or industry. Full-time employees with industry credentials earn more than their uncredentialed counterparts, and, in some cases, the salaries of credential holders who do not hold college degrees are similar to the salaries of college graduates.

The legislature also finds that the State has critical shortages of qualified and credentialed workers in sectors including health, education, air travel, and technology. Given the recent downturn in the State's economy and the rise in unemployment, it is especially important for Hawaii to equip its students for the existing job market. To this end, the Promising Credentials project, a collaborative effort aimed at using Hawaii labor market data and local employer insights to identify high-value industry credentials in the State, was launched. This information will enable local career readiness programs to better tailor their offerings to Hawaii's job market and to deliver more effective services to both students and employers. However, there is a need for the data to be disaggregated by credential and to be consistently collected and reported by state agencies.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- (1) Require the state board for career and technical education to oversee and review annually the statewide data collection processes, reporting requirements, and business rules related to the student attainment of industry-recognized credentials;
- (2) Require the state board for career and technical education to provide an annual report to the governor and the legislature on students' attainment of industry-recognized credentials; and
- (3) Include career and technical education and credential data in the statewide longitudinal data system to help assess the longitudinal education and workforce outcomes of students who attempted an educational course, training program, career program, postsecondary program, or other workforce training program.

SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to subpart C of part I to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**“§304A- Industry-recognized credentials; data collection.** (a) The board shall review annually the statewide data collection processes, reporting requirements, and business rules related to the student attainment of industry-recognized credentials. The board shall ensure consistent data collection and transparent reporting across relevant state educational systems and agencies. The board shall provide an annual report to the governor and the legislature on students' attainment of industry-recognized credentials.

(b) All state data collection processes, reporting requirements, and business rules shall support the collection of student-level data to include data that is disaggregated specifically for Hawaii's population, including but not limited to disaggregated data for Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, of industry-recognized credential attainment.

(c) The board’s annual report shall be published digitally and shall be made available to all relevant stakeholders, including students and families, educational institutions, educators, employers, and community members.

(d) As used in this section:

“Board” means the state board for career and technical education.

“Industry-recognized credential” means a credential recognized as having value to the holder of the credential in the labor market in Hawaii.”

SECTION 3. Act 46, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, is amended by amending section 13 to read as follows:

“SECTION 13. Section 27-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“~~§27-7~~ **Departmental data sharing.** (a) The department of education, the University of Hawaii, the department of labor and industrial relations, and other state agencies, as appropriate, shall share data through the statewide longitudinal data system to support research that will improve educational and workforce outcomes ~~[and meet the longitudinal data requirements of the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, as amended]~~. The data to be shared shall be determined jointly by the department of education, the University of Hawaii, the department of labor and industrial relations, and other state agencies, as appropriate, and shall be shared no less than annually.

(b) The department of education, the University of Hawaii, the department of labor and industrial relations, and other state agencies, as appropriate, shall share data in a manner that safeguards the confidentiality of student education records, as defined by the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, and workforce data, as provided by applicable federal and state laws, rules, and regulations.

(c) The statewide longitudinal data system shall store and analyze career and technical education data it receives from all state educational systems and workforce training agencies pursuant to section 304A- to analyze the cross-agency longitudinal education and workforce outcomes of students who attempted an educational course, training program, career program, postsecondary program, or other state-supported workforce training program. Data to be shared shall be determined jointly by the relevant agencies and shall be shared no less than annually.

~~[(e)]~~ (d) All data shared by or with the department of human services, department of education, public charter school authorizers, public charter schools, executive office on early learning, and other entities as required by statute shall be subject to any administrative rule regarding privacy adopted by the department or agency that collected the data.

~~[(d)]~~ (e) The department of education, the University of Hawaii, the department of labor and industrial relations, and other state agencies, as appropriate, shall ~~[establish a data governance and access committee that meets on a quarterly basis to]~~ partner to collectively govern the statewide longitudinal data system and determine protocols to:

- (1) Prioritize analyses and research questions that will provide information to improve educational and workforce outcomes and policies; and
- (2) Approve requests for access to data provided by the department of education, the University of Hawaii, the department of labor and industrial ~~[[relations]]~~, and other state agencies, as appropriate.

~~[(e)]~~ (f) All state agency directors shall consider sharing data for the statewide longitudinal data system.””

**SECTION 4.** Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.<sup>2</sup>

**SECTION 5.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval; provided that section 2 shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

(Approved July 1, 2021.)

**Notes**

1. So in original.
2. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.