



GOV. MSG. NO. 1080

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

July 11, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Madam President and Members of the Senate:

Re: House Bill No. 767 HD2 SD2 CD1

On July 10, 2007, House Bill No. 767, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to the Running Start Program for College Preparation" became law without my signature, pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the State Constitution.

The purpose of this bill to require the Department of Education to provide students who participate in the Running Start Program with guidance in how to earn credit toward high school graduation through the satisfactory completion of University of Hawaii courses, and to provide funding for scholarships to students who participate in the Running Start Program.

Although the intent of this legislation is laudable, the funding does not appear essential at this time. Scholarship monies for the Running Start Program are funded through GEAR UP – Hawaii, a federally financed program. It appears federal support is likely to continue for this program.

Scholarships for the Running Start program were not identified as a priority for the University of Hawaii in their Board of Regents approved biennium budget request. Further, University of Hawaii has the ability to waive tuition for needy students in the program.

For the foregoing reason, I allowed House Bill No. 767 to become law as Act 282, effective July 10, 2007, without my signature.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Lingle".

LINDA LINGLE

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE RUNNING START PROGRAM FOR COLLEGE PREPARATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. Students and families of underrepresented
2 populations in higher education are often discouraged by the
3 perceived costs of college attendance. Scholarships embedded in
4 a program of college preparation and support can be an effective
5 motivating factor for these students to pursue and attend
6 college.

7 High school students often want to enroll in classes other
8 than those on the currently-approved department of education
9 list. These students should be allowed and, in fact, encouraged
10 to take university courses at the one-hundred level and above
11 and have those classes qualify as credit toward high school
12 graduation. The running start program, a joint program of the
13 department of education and the University of Hawaii that was
14 created pursuant to section 302A-401, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
15 is helpful in preparing students of underrepresented populations
16 for college entry. Earning dual credit for both high school and



1 college can provide motivation and preparation that enhances
2 these students' opportunities to attend college.

3 Experience with the running start program has shown that
4 students in underrepresented populations may not be
5 participating in the program because of financial difficulty.
6 Experience has also shown that there has been some confusion
7 about obtaining dual credit for courses completed at the
8 University of Hawaii.

9 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 10 (1) Require the department of education to provide
11 students who participate in the running start program
12 with guidance in earning credit toward high school
13 graduation for successful completion of one-hundred
14 level and above University of Hawaii courses; and
15 (2) Increase financial support for the families of low-
16 income and underrepresented students.

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

20 "§302A- Running start credits. The department shall
21 provide students who participate in the running start program
22 with guidance in earning credit toward high school graduation



1 upon the satisfactory completion of University of Hawaii courses
2 at the one-hundred level and above pursuant to section 302A-
3 401."

4 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much
6 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008 and the
7 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
8 2008-2009 to be deposited into the University of Hawaii
9 scholarship and assistance special fund.

10 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the University of
11 Hawaii scholarship and assistance special fund the sum of
12 \$50,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2007-2008 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be
14 necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to provide scholarships to
15 students who are members of underrepresented populations in
16 higher education, as determined by the University of Hawaii, to
17 participate in the running start program.

18 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
19 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon approval;
2 provided that sections 3 and 4 shall take effect on July 1,
3 2007.

