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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that despite having a  
2 high school graduation rate of eighty-one per cent, only fifty-  
3 six per cent of Hawaii's public school graduates continued on to  
4 post-secondary education in 2015. The legislature further finds  
5 that high school students in Hawaii would benefit from precisely  
6 aligning curriculum to workforce readiness, which depends upon  
7 close collaboration between the public school system, a  
8 community college, and one or more industry employers near the  
9 school complex to ensure they receive the industry-based skills  
10 and certification required for post-graduation employment and to  
11 live, learn, work, and play in the community.

12           Closing the skills gap is especially critical in the  
13 manufacturing industry. Over the next decade, nearly 3,500,000  
14 manufacturing jobs will likely need to be filled throughout the  
15 country, yet the skills gap is expected to result in 2,000,000  
16 of these jobs remaining unfilled. There are numerous  
17 contributing factors to this widening gap, including looming  
18 baby boomer retirements and economic expansion. However, other



1 contributing factors include loss of embedded knowledge due to  
2 movement of experienced workers; a perceived preference among  
3 younger generations for industries other than manufacturing;  
4 lack of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)  
5 skills among workers; and a gradual decline of technical  
6 education programs in public high schools.

7       The legislature additionally finds that collaboration  
8 between educators and industry allows students to graduate from  
9 high school with a high school diploma and an industry-  
10 recognized associate's degree. Students may also earn pre-  
11 apprenticeship certificates and other industry-recognized  
12 certificates in addition to an associate's degree. The  
13 legislature also finds that similar models recently established  
14 in Connecticut, Illinois, and New York are showing promise in  
15 graduating more high school students with career-ready skills to  
16 meet an industry's workforce needs.

17       The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
18 education to collaborate with the workforce development council  
19 on workforce development initiatives.



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

4 "§302A- Workforce development collaboration. The  
5 department shall collaborate with the workforce development  
6 council on workforce development initiatives pursuant to section  
7 202-2(b)."

8 SECTION 3. Section 202-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "§202-2 Duties of council. (a) In accordance with P.L.  
11 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3111), the workforce development council  
12 shall assist the governor in:

- 13 (1) The development, implementation, and modification of  
14 the state plan consistent with P.L. 113-128 (29 U.S.C.  
15 3112);
- 16 (2) The review of statewide policies, statewide programs,  
17 and recommendations on actions that should be taken by  
18 the State to align workforce development programs in a  
19 manner that supports a comprehensive and streamlined  
20 workforce development system in the State, including



- 1 consideration of programs and activities of one-stop  
2 partners that are not core programs;
- 3 (3) The development and continuous improvement of the  
4 workforce development system in the State;
- 5 (4) The development and updating of comprehensive state  
6 performance accountability measures, including state  
7 adjusted levels of performance, to assess the  
8 effectiveness of the core programs in the State as  
9 required under P.L. 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3141(b));
- 10 (5) The identification and dissemination of information on  
11 best practices for the effective operation of one-stop  
12 centers, and the development of effective local boards  
13 and effective training programs;
- 14 (6) The development and review of statewide policies  
15 affecting the coordinated provision of services  
16 through the State's one-stop delivery system;
- 17 (7) The development of strategies for technological  
18 improvements to facilitate access to, and improve the  
19 quality of, services and activities provided through  
20 the one-stop delivery system;



- 1           (8) The development of strategies for aligning technology  
2           and data systems across one-stop partner programs to  
3           enhance service delivery and improve efficiencies in  
4           reporting on performance accountability measures,  
5           including the design and implementation of common  
6           intake, data collection, case management information,  
7           and performance accountability measurement and  
8           reporting processes, and the incorporation of local  
9           input into such design and implementation, to improve  
10          coordination of services across one-stop partner  
11          programs;
- 12          (9) The development of allocation formulas for the  
13          distribution of funds for employment and training  
14          activities for adults, and youth workforce investment  
15          activities, to local areas as permitted under P.L.  
16          113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3163(b)(3), 3173(b)(3));
- 17          (10) The preparation of annual reports as described in P.L.  
18          113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3141(d));
- 19          (11) The development of the statewide workforce and labor  
20          market information system described in the Wagner-  
21          Peyser Act (29 U.S.C. 491-2(e));



1 (12) The development of such other policies as may promote  
2 statewide objectives for, and enhance the performance  
3 of, the workforce development system;

4 (13) Creating public awareness and understanding of the  
5 State's workforce development plans, policies,  
6 programs, and activities, and promoting the plans,  
7 policies, programs, and activities as economic  
8 investments;

9 (14) Submitting annual reports of the council's activities  
10 and recommendations to the governor and the  
11 legislature, and posting the annual reports  
12 electronically on the council's website no later than  
13 twenty days before the convening of each regular  
14 session. Annual reports shall include:

15 (A) The status of the comprehensive state plan for  
16 workforce development; and

17 (B) Information regarding the workforce development  
18 programs offered throughout the State, the number  
19 of individuals placed in high-demand or high-  
20 growth employment through workforce development  
21 programs by departments, the type or category of



1                   employment garnered, and allocations of state,  
2                   federal, and other funding to achieve placements  
3                   into higher-skilled jobs;

4           (15)   Evaluating the state workforce development plan in  
5           terms of how its purposes, goals, and objectives have  
6           been carried out throughout the State;

7           (16)   Providing technical assistance to local workforce  
8           development boards and other similar organizations;

9           (17)   Carrying out required functions and duties related to  
10          workforce development of any advisory body required or  
11          made optional by federal legislation;

12          (18)   The review and certification of local workforce boards  
13          and plans prepared by local workforce boards for the  
14          use of federal workforce development funds as provided  
15          in P.L. 113-128 (29 U.S.C. 3122(b)-(c)); and

16          (19)   Commenting on the measures taken pursuant to section  
17          122(c)(17) of the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical  
18          Education Act of 2006, P.L. 109-270.

19          (b)   The workforce development council shall collaborate  
20          with the department of education on workforce development  
21          initiatives to:



- 1        (1) Develop sector strategies and a career pathways system  
2        that will integrate education and training and move  
3        persons seeking jobs into growth industries by:
- 4        (A) Using economic data, industry clusters, and  
5        industry resources to determine growth industries  
6        and the skill needs of industries and employers;
- 7        (B) Establishing and maintaining initiatives that  
8        facilitate ongoing dialogue between government,  
9        employers, and other key stakeholders to increase  
10       understanding of growth industry needs and  
11       develop strategies to meet those needs;
- 12       (C) Focusing public resources on training that moves  
13       workers into industries with high-quality jobs  
14       that lead to better financial outcomes and longer  
15       job tenures for workers;
- 16       (D) Facilitating the development of common programs  
17       for individuals who choose to enroll in post  
18       secondary education and individuals who choose to  
19       develop employment skills through work experience  
20       or on-the-job training;





- 1           (E) Coordinating a common work assessment process
- 2                   between core partners;
- 3           (F) Implementing the employment first state mentoring
- 4                   program; and
- 5           (G) Maintaining the iCAN bridging program at the
- 6                   community schools for adults as a stepping stone
- 7                   to proceed into a career pathway leading to a
- 8                   work-readiness certificate or degree; and
- 9           (2) Engage employers in the workforce development system
- 10                   by:
- 11           (A) Improving employer use of the participant
- 12                   management information system by:
- 13                   (i) Promoting the benefits of using the system;
- 14                   (ii) Providing training in the system; and
- 15                   (iii) Making improvements to the system for the
- 16                           purpose of user friendliness;
- 17           (B) Expanding employer involvement with program
- 18                   design to improve access to jobs;
- 19           (C) Focusing on short- and long-term goals aligned
- 20                   with industry needs, created with industry input,



1                   and sustained through industry oversight and  
2                   participation; and

3                   (D) Establishing core partner teams.

4                   (c) The workforce development council shall submit a  
5 report to the senate committee on education, senate committee on  
6 higher education, house of representatives committee on  
7 education, and house of representatives committee on higher  
8 education ninety days prior to the start of each regular session  
9 on the progress of workforce development initiatives pursuant to  
10 subsection (b)."

11                   SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

Department of Education; Workforce Development Council;  
Workforce Development Initiatives

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Education to collaborate with the  
Workforce Development Council on workforce development  
initiatives. (SD1)

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not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

