A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a gap exists between the skills that students in the State have upon graduation from high school and the skills that employers in the State are seeking. Business leaders in Hawaii's expanding industries report that it is often difficult to recruit local applicants who have necessary skills and experiences.

The legislature further finds that educational programs specializing in career readiness and technical skills can be effective in preparing students in Hawaii to enter the State's job market. Educational initiatives at schools within the State have been established to develop students' technical skills and prepare them to enter the workforce.

The purpose of this Act is to establish a statewide policy that supports those students who want to receive career and technical skills education. To effectuate this statewide policy, this Act supports the expansion of the numbers of students receiving career and technical skills education by
giving students a preference or district exceptions for these
programs in schools outside of the service area in which those
students reside.

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

"§302A— Career and technical education programs;

enrollment. (a) Any school having a career and technical
education program shall enroll all students:

(1) Who reside within the school's service area pursuant
to section 302A-1143 and submit a timely application
for participation in the program;

(2) Enrolled in the school during the previous school year
and who submit a timely application for participation
in the program; and

(3) Who reside outside the school's service area and who
submit a timely application;

provided that if enrolling all students pursuant to paragraphs
(1), (2), and (3) will cause the enrollment of the school to
exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or
building, the school shall enroll all students described in
paragraphs (1) and (2) and fill the remaining capacity, if any, of the program, class, grade level, or building by selecting eligible students described in paragraph (3) through a lottery system.

(b) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 to effectuate the purposes of this section.

(c) For the purpose of this section, "career and technical education program" means a program operated by a school that primarily focuses on learning and skill development in students through the practical application of academic and technical skills and knowledge."

SECTION 3. Section 302A-1143, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§302A-1143 Attending school in what service area. A person of school age shall be required to attend the school of the service area, as determined by the department, in which the person resides, unless:

(1) The person is enrolled in a Hawaiian language medium education program or charter school;
(2) A geographic exception to attend a school in another
service area is requested and granted at the
discretion of the department; [ex]

(3) Out-of-service-area attendance is mandated by the
department or by federal law[+]; or

(4) The person is enrolled in a career and technical
education program under section 302A--."  

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

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

INTRODUCED BY:
Report Title:
Department of Education; Career and Technical Education; District Exceptions

Description:
Gives students enrolling in career and technical programs a preference or district exceptions for those programs in schools outside of the service area in which the student resides.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.