
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGE WORKFORCE TRAINING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's community
2 colleges play a critical role in the economic recovery and
3 revitalization of the State. The community colleges support
4 residents by providing them with opportunities to improve their
5 employment prospects and developing a workforce that helps
6 businesses and other organizations meet the community's needs.

7 The legislature further finds that community colleges are
8 at the forefront of post-secondary workforce development
9 programs, both locally and across the United States. Programs
10 that are designed to positively impact local employment
11 pipelines and provide skills for students to succeed in jobs
12 that pay not just the minimum wage, but a family-sustaining
13 wage, are critical to rebuilding the post-pandemic economy and
14 developing Hawaii's future workforce.

15 The legislature also finds that the expansion of dual
16 credit opportunities such as early college have benefited



1 students throughout the State. Early college programming has
2 enabled students to begin pursuing their educational and career
3 goals while in high school.

4 The legislature further notes that close to half of public
5 school graduates do not enroll immediately in a two- or
6 four-year college after graduation. For those students,
7 short-term workforce training opportunities provided by the
8 University of Hawaii community colleges are a viable alternative
9 to enrollment in for-credit college programs. These offerings
10 can provide students, particularly those who do not intend to
11 enroll in college, with the training they need to immediately
12 enter the workforce after high school while pursuing
13 industry-recognized credentials with labor market value or while
14 continuing their education and training, or taken
15 simultaneously.

16 The legislature believes that Hawaii's community college
17 faculty and administrators work with employers, industry
18 associations, economic development leaders, and community
19 organizations to develop and offer workforce training programs
20 to prepare residents for current and future employment
21 opportunities, whether for initial employment, advancement,



1 continuing education, or career changes. Community colleges
 2 provide workforce training through their credit-based degree
 3 programs, as well as non-credit workforce training programs.
 4 Hawaii's community colleges also provide opportunities for
 5 residents to earn industry-recognized certificates that are
 6 valued by local employers and that can also be "stacked" toward
 7 higher level certificates or degrees.

8 The purpose of this Act is to utilize the University of
 9 Hawaii's community colleges as a channel to assist in
 10 stimulating and revitalizing Hawaii's economic recovery by
 11 appropriating funds for the administration, training, personnel,
 12 and student support of the colleges' workforce development
 13 programs, including for students who are enrolled in public high
 14 schools in the State.

15 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
 18 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 19 2024-2025 for the University of Hawaii community colleges'
 20 workforce development programs to fund administration, training,



1 positions, and student support, especially for high school
2 students.

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

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Community Colleges; Workforce Development;
Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the University of Hawaii Community
Colleges' workforce development programs. (SD1)

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