

JAN 20 2023

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO POLICE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Honolulu police
2 department is suffering from a staffing shortage. As of May
3 2022, the Honolulu police department had 1,828 sworn officers
4 and three hundred forty-nine vacancies. Short staffing results
5 in some police beats going under-manned, with just seventy-seven
6 per cent staffing during certain shifts in Honolulu police
7 department district 1, which includes downtown Honolulu,
8 Chinatown, and Kakaako. Staffing shortages also limit the time
9 officers have to work with the community, preventing officers
10 from building deep relationships with the community and business
11 owners.

12 The legislature further finds that the Honolulu police
13 department is highly selective in its recruiting efforts to
14 ensure that only the best, most qualified candidates become
15 police officers that serve and protect local communities. In
16 the past two years, just over five per cent of the thousands of
17 applicants who signed up to take the police entrance exam became



1 police recruits. Expanding the overall pool of quality
2 applicants by creating a pilot program to engage with young
3 adults at high schools will support the effort of the Honolulu
4 police department to select qualified police recruits meeting
5 the department's high standards.

6 The purpose of this Act is to establish a junior police
7 pilot program at Farrington high school in coordination with the
8 Honolulu police department with the goal of connecting young
9 adults to the workforce and addressing police officer shortages.

10 SECTION 2. The department of education, in collaboration
11 with the Honolulu police department, shall establish and operate
12 a junior police pilot program at Farrington high school, with
13 the intended purpose of connecting young adults to the workforce
14 by developing qualified police department recruits, thereby
15 addressing police officer shortages.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
19 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
20 year 2024-2025 for administration of the junior police pilot
21 program pursuant to this Act.

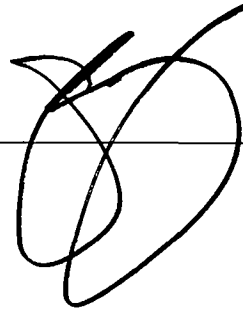


1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2 of education for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____

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S.B. NO. 452

Report Title:

Junior Police Pilot Program; Farrington High School; Department of Education; Honolulu Police Department; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a junior police pilot program at Farrington High School in coordination with the Honolulu Police Department. Appropriates funds.

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

