



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

September 17, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

The Honorable Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair, Senate Special Committee on COVID-19
and members
Thirtieth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 208
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and members:

Re: Restoration of Training Funds for Unemployed

My administration is committed to assisting displaced workers and I am pleased to report that the \$10 million to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) for SCRF Retraining and Workforce Development, known as *Hawai'i Works*, has been approved and contracts have been signed. DBEDT will be providing documentation in their response regarding Act 9 program funding later this week. We will continue looking into opportunities to fund workforce development initiatives as feasible.

We have identified funding for a grant program to encourage development of Hawai'i's technology and agriculture industries. We expect that this will naturally drive workforce development in a new direction that will help diversify our economy.

We look forward to continued collaboration with you to ensure support of our workforce and economy.

Sincerely,

David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai'i

c: Senate President Kouchi