
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HIGH TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a
2 qualified high technology business that is subject to the
3 employment and training assessment required under section
4 383-129, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and that establishes and
5 operates a high technology mentorship program for high school
6 students in the State, approved by the department of labor and
7 industrial relations in accordance with subsection (c), shall
8 qualify for a credit against its employment and training
9 assessment for the succeeding calendar year.

10 (b) The employment and training assessment credit provided
11 under this Act shall be equal to the wages of one full-time
12 equivalent employee of the qualified high technology business
13 paid at the lowest pay rate or salary paid by the business for
14 each high school student participating in the business's high
15 technology mentorship program and shall apply against the
16 business's total taxable wages calculation as specified in
17 section 383-61, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The employment and
18 training assessment credit shall only apply against assessments



1 under section 383-129, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and may be
2 credited against the qualified high technology business's
3 employment and training assessment liability for the succeeding
4 calendar year.

5 If a qualified high technology business's employment and
6 training assessment credit is greater than the business's
7 employment and training assessment liability in a given calendar
8 year, the business may apply the remaining credit to its future
9 employment and training assessment liability until the credit is
10 exhausted. A qualified high technology business whose
11 employment and training assessment credit is greater than the
12 business's employment and training assessment liability shall
13 not be entitled to a refund of past assessments under this Act.

14 (c) The department of labor and industrial relations, in
15 consultation with the workforce development council, shall
16 establish criteria for approving high technology mentorship
17 programs. The criteria shall include but not be limited to:

- 18 (1) The types of high technology training provided by a
19 qualified high technology business;
20 (2) Minimum high technology mentorship program
21 requirements;



1 (3) Duration of the high technology mentorship program per
2 calendar year;

3 (4) Minimum amount of hours of participation by individual
4 students; provided that an individual student need not
5 be required to work full time in order for the
6 qualified high technology business to be able to claim
7 the assessment credit established under subsection
8 (b); and

9 (5) Any other criteria the department of labor and
10 industrial relations deems necessary.

11 The criteria shall be adopted in accordance with chapter
12 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

13 (d) The department of labor and industrial relations shall
14 review a qualified high technology business's high technology
15 mentorship program proposal and, if the department determines
16 that the business's mentorship program meets the criteria
17 established pursuant to subsection (c), the department shall
18 provide the business with a written approval of the mentorship
19 program. Prior to the end of each calendar year following the
20 approval of a qualified high technology business's mentorship
21 program, the qualified high technology business shall submit all
22 information regarding its mentorship program required by the



1 department of labor and industrial relations to verify student
2 participation and to calculate the business's employment and
3 training assessment credit.

4 The department of labor and industrial relations shall
5 prepare and provide the necessary forms for qualified high
6 technology businesses to establish high technology mentorship
7 programs and to apply for and claim the employment and training
8 assessment credit.

9 (e) For the purposes of this Act, "qualified high
10 technology business" has the same meaning as defined in section
11 235-110.9(g), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

12 SECTION 2. The department of labor and industrial
13 relations shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 91,
14 Hawaii Revised Statutes, to effectuate this Act.

15 SECTION 3. The department of labor and industrial
16 relations shall submit an initial progress report on the
17 implementation of this Act not later than twenty days prior to
18 the convening of the 2007 regular session and shall annually
19 thereafter submit progress reports to the legislature not later
20 than twenty days prior to the convening of each succeeding
21 regular session. Not later than twenty days prior to the
22 convening of the 2011 regular session, the department of labor



1 and industrial relations shall submit a final report on the
 2 implementation of this Act that shall include but not be limited
 3 to its findings on how the high technology mentorship program
 4 established under this Act has impacted the high technology
 5 education of high school students in the State, the revenue lost
 6 to the employment and training fund due the employment and
 7 training assessment credit, and recommendations on whether the
 8 high technology mentorship program and employment and training
 9 assessment credit should be made permanent.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval
 11 and shall be repealed on June 30, 2011.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

High Technology Mentorship Program; Employment and Training Fund

Description:

Establishes a high technology mentorship program as a pilot project for high school students to develop hands on high technology skills. Allows businesses that participate in training high school students to claim a credit against their employment and training fund assessment.

