

# H.B. NO. 2433

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to establish a civil  
2 engineering scholarship program to be administered by the  
3 department of transportation and to appropriate moneys to  
4 promote the civil engineering profession, and offer financial  
5 assistance, on-the-job training, and employment opportunities to  
6 qualified students in Hawaii.

7           SECTION 2. Chapter 78, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
8 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated to read as  
9 follows:

10           "§78-       Department of transportation; civil engineering  
11 scholarship program. (a) The department of transportation may  
12 establish a civil engineering scholarship program open to high  
13 school graduates of accredited high schools in Hawaii, or high  
14 school graduates who are residents of Hawaii, who have  
15 successfully completed a high school pre-college curriculum. The  
16 department of transportation, highways division, shall establish,  
17 without regard to chapter 91, the criteria and guidelines for the  
18 scholarship program that shall include but not be limited to the

1 qualification requirements, conditions for the scholarship,  
2 reimbursement provisions, and alternate options in which a  
3 scholarship participant may participate in order to otherwise  
4 fulfill their employment obligation under a scholarship  
5 agreement, if the participant is not hired by the department of  
6 transportation, highways division.

7 (b) The tuition component amount of a civil engineering  
8 scholarship award shall be limited to the resident tuition cost  
9 of the university of Hawaii at Manoa.

10 (c) Students awarded scholarships shall agree by  
11 contract, with the written approval of a parent or guardian  
12 when the applicant is under eighteen years of age, to apply for  
13 full-time civil service employment with the department of  
14 transportation, highways division, immediately after graduation  
15 from an accredited civil engineering program at the university  
16 of Hawaii and, accept any position offered, and if hired,  
17 complete one year of full-time employment with the department  
18 of transportation, highways division, for each school year in  
19 the scholarship program. A participant who fails to:

20 (1) Graduate from an accredited civil engineering program  
21 at the university of Hawaii; or

22

1        (2) Apply for employment with the department of  
2                    transportation, highways division, immediately upon  
3                    graduation as provided in this subsection or in  
4                    subsection (f); or

5        (3) Accept any position offered by the department of  
6                    transportation, highways division,  
7        shall reimburse the department of transportation, highways  
8        division, the full amount of moneys received; or

9        (d) A participant who leaves the department of  
10                   transportation, highways division, before completing the  
11                   required number of years of employment shall reimburse the  
12                   department of transportation, highways division, the full amount  
13                   of scholarship moneys received by the participant for each year  
14                   of scholarship that corresponds to each year for which the  
15                   participant fails to complete the employment requirement.

16        (e) Summer employment may be offered by the department of  
17                   transportation, highways division, to scholarship students. The  
18                   department of transportation, highways division, shall establish  
19                   guidelines to effectuate this subsection.

20        (f) The department of transportation's guidelines for this  
21                   program will address situations where participants may wish to  
22                   postpone their work commitment to pursue a masters degree in  
23                   civil engineering."

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1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the highways  
 2 special fund, highways administration, (TRN 595) the sum of  
 3 \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for fiscal year  
 4 2006-2007 to implement the department of transportation's  
 5 engineering scholarship program.

6 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the  
 7 department of transportation, highways division, for the purposes  
 8 of this Act.

9 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11  
 12 INTRODUCED BY: Calvin K.Y. Song  
 13 BY REQUEST

JAN 23 2006

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JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: University of Hawaii

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION'S ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM.

PURPOSE: To promote the civil engineering profession and enhance the recruitment and retention of civil engineers in the Department of Transportation by providing financial assistance, on-the-job training, and educational opportunities to qualified students of Hawaii.

MEANS: Add a new section to chapter 78, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: In recent years, the Department of Transportation has experienced difficulty in recruiting and retaining qualified engineers, which is due, in part, to the decreasing enrollments in civil engineering at the University of Hawaii, and the disparity in salaries between the private and public sectors. A civil engineering scholarship program will promote the civil engineering profession, offer job opportunities with the Department of Transportation, and provide financial assistance and on-the-job training to qualified students.

Impact on the public: Provides educational and employment opportunities in civil engineering to qualified Hawaii students.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Enhances the recruitment and retention of qualified and motivated civil engineers in the Department of Transportation.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: Special - \$100,000 for fiscal year 2006-2007

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PPBS PROGRAM  
DESIGNATION:

TRN 995

OTHER AFFECTED  
AGENCIES:

Department of Transportation and Department  
of Human Resources Development.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Upon approval.