

JAN 25 2006

S.B. NO. 2396

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

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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."

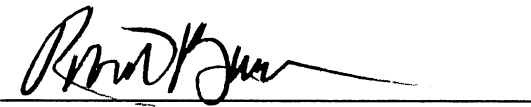
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1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the highways
2 special fund, highways administration, (TRN 595) the sum of
3 \$100,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for fiscal year
4 2006-2007 to implement the department of transportation's
5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

13 BY REQUEST

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

SB. NO. 2396

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.