
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that vocational,
2 technical, and career pathway classes provide students with
3 opportunities to apply knowledge and skills to real life work
4 experiences. These classes also help students develop the
5 technical, academic, employability, and life skills needed for a
6 career or post-secondary education. Required core classes and
7 specific area classes currently offered in the public school
8 system encompass six major career pathways:

- 9 (1) Industrial and educational technology;
10 (2) Arts and communication;
11 (3) Natural resources;
12 (4) Human services;
13 (5) Health; and
14 (6) Business.

15 For the 2004 school year, there were forty thousand public
16 school students from grades nine to twelve enrolled in
17 vocational, technical, and career pathway education classes in
18 their schools. The legislature finds that there is a need to



1 provide an adequate number of highly qualified vocational,
2 technical, and career pathway education teachers to improve the
3 delivery of instruction in these classes.

4 The purpose of this Act is to increase the number of
5 vocational, technical, and career pathway teachers by directing
6 the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board to set alternative criteria
7 and establish other measures of qualification necessary for
8 these types of teachers to meet licensing standards.

9 SECTION 2. Section 302A-802, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "**§302A-802 Licensing standards; policies.** (a) The board
12 shall establish licensing standards that govern teacher
13 licensing in Hawaii. Licensing standards established by the
14 board shall be adopted as rules under chapter 91 unless
15 otherwise specified in this subpart.

16 (b) In the development of its standards, the board shall
17 consider the existing teacher applicant pool that is available
18 in the State and the level of the qualification of these
19 applicants, as well as the nature and availability of existing
20 preservice higher education teacher training programs.

21 (c) The board shall adopt policies, exempt from chapters
22 91 and 92, to initiate the following:

- 1 (1) Develop [~~a plan~~] criteria for [~~licensing~~] allowing
2 more individuals with [~~practical~~] trade or industry
3 experience [~~for teaching~~] to teach in vocational[~~+~~],
4 technical, and career pathway programs[~~+~~], and
5 criteria to allow the issuance of permits for
6 qualified individuals to teach when recommended by the
7 superintendent. The department shall be responsible
8 for the review and acceptance of the industry
9 licenses, certificates, experiences, or other
10 qualifications necessary to receive such a permit.
11 The department shall have the authority to waive the
12 requirement of a bachelor's degree to teach in a
13 career or technical education program;
- 14 (2) Develop a plan to accept teachers from any state as
15 long as they have completed state-approved teacher
16 education programs and pass relevant Hawaii teacher
17 examinations or their equivalent;
- 18 (3) Clarify the requirements, on a state-by-state basis,
19 for out-of-state licensed teachers to obtain a license
20 in Hawaii;
- 21 (4) Develop a plan to facilitate licensing for those who
22 intend to teach in Hawaii immersion programs, the

1 island of Niihau, or any other [†]extraordinary[†]
2 situation as defined by the [†]superintendent[†] or
3 the superintendent's designee; and

4 (5) Pursue full teacher license reciprocity with the
5 mid-Atlantic states, California, Colorado, Illinois,
6 Michigan, New York, Oregon, and Washington."

7 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Report Title:

Education; Hawaii Teachers Standard Board; Vocational Education

Description:

Directs the Hawaii Teachers Standards Board to create alternative criteria and other measures of qualification for highly qualified vocational education and career pathway teachers. (SD1)

