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# 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 recruitment and  
2 retention of qualified teachers for Hawaii's public schools  
3 continues to be a challenge for Hawaii's department of education  
4 and charter schools, as well as the teacher education community.  
5 The University of Hawaii's college of education plays a major  
6 role in the education of future teachers, continued professional  
7 development of educators, and programs that lead to licensing,  
8 certificate programs, mentoring of teachers, educational  
9 research, and policy studies.

10           The legislature further finds that the strategic plan of  
11 the University of Hawaii at Manoa calls for an ongoing  
12 commitment to public education in Hawaii.

13           The legislature further finds that teachers have expressed  
14 great frustration with the implementation of and compliance with  
15 the No Child Left Behind Act. Since its enactment, there has  
16 been a significant amount of experience and analysis of the  
17 effectiveness of the No Child Left Behind Act approach to



1 assessments and standards. At the same time, many school  
2 systems, including the Hawaii state department of education,  
3 have sought to utilize nationally produced assessment  
4 instruments that have not always met the needs of our  
5 communities. In fact, our State, like many others, has not  
6 taken full advantage of the flexibilities that are offered by  
7 federal law. It is also apparent that referencing our standards  
8 requirements to a law that may be modified or repealed may limit  
9 the State's options.

10 The legislature further finds that greater collaboration  
11 between the University of Hawaii's many educational resources,  
12 including the Hawaii educational policy center and the  
13 department of education, will benefit all of Hawaii's students.

14 Specifically, this Act includes appropriations for the  
15 following programs:

- 16 (1) Teacher education capacity (fiscal year 2007-2008:  
17 \$65,000; fiscal year 2008-2009: \$130,000). To  
18 continue efforts to fill the State's need for  
19 qualified teachers for Hawaii's keiki, this  
20 appropriation for additional permanent positions in  
21 fiscal year 2007 and another in fiscal year 2008 for  
22 the college of education allows the school to accept



1 more qualified students into teacher education  
2 programs, thus increasing the number and quality of  
3 locally produced teachers in shortage areas such as  
4 mathematics, science, and, in keeping the P-20  
5 initiative, early childhood education;

6 (2) Center on disability studies (fiscal year 2008-2009:  
7 \$120,000). To meet federal grant requirements for  
8 institutional support, the center on disability  
9 studies requests two additional permanent faculty  
10 positions. The center on disability studies operates  
11 with only one general-funded position. The additional  
12 positions will enable the center on disability studies  
13 to further expand its ability to obtain additional  
14 grant funds and, therefore, its outreach to serve the  
15 increasing numbers of persons with disabilities. The  
16 center on disability studies works through training,  
17 research, and service to improve quality of life for  
18 people with disabilities throughout the State, and  
19 currently manages more than eighty-eight faculty and  
20 staff members and fifty projects with a budget of over  
21 \$15,000,000;



1           (3) Funding for mentor teachers (fiscal year 2007-2008:  
2           \$125,000; fiscal year 2008-2009: \$125,000).  
3           Cooperating teachers/counselors and  
4           observation/participating teachers in grades  
5           kindergarten through twelve classrooms throughout the  
6           State provide an essential service to the college of  
7           education by supervising and mentoring full-time  
8           student teachers and other education practicum  
9           students in the field required for licensure. Funding  
10          for this item is requested to:

11          (A) More appropriately compensate mentor teachers for  
12          the additional work they provide in developing  
13          Hawaii's teacher workforce; and

14          (B) Put mentor compensation on par with other  
15          institutions of higher learning in the State;

16          (4) Funding for schools to apply to become professional  
17          development schools (fiscal year 2007-2008: \$250,000;  
18          fiscal year 2008-2009: \$250,000). Schools may  
19          compete for grants that address standards-based  
20          learning, teacher preparation, and professional  
21          development by the placement of faculty within the  
22          school to work with future and current teachers;



1 (5) Permanent special education faculty (fiscal year  
2 2008-2009: \$500,000). The State of Hawaii's need for  
3 more qualified special education teachers is  
4 increasing. In order to fulfill this need, the  
5 college of education requests funds to hire seven  
6 permanent faculty and one full-time staff person in  
7 the special education department. These positions are  
8 temporarily being funded by the Hawaii department of  
9 education, and if this funding were discontinued it  
10 would severally impact the college of education's  
11 ability to produce qualified special education  
12 teachers;

13 (6) Funding responsibility for the master of education in  
14 teaching program (fiscal year 2007-2008: \$700,000;  
15 fiscal year 2008-2009: \$700,000). Transfer funding  
16 for the master of education in teaching program from  
17 the department of education to the college of  
18 education and expand stipends to include native  
19 Hawaiian cohort teachers (fiscal year 2007-2008:  
20 \$700,000; fiscal year 2008-2009: \$700,000). The  
21 master of education in teaching program is a two-year  
22 program, including two semesters of field experience



1 in grades kindergarten through twelve classroom  
2 settings. During the fourth semester, teacher  
3 candidates work as teacher interns, whereby they take  
4 over a vacated department of education teacher  
5 position and are the teacher of record from January to  
6 the end of the department of education calendar year.  
7 The college requests funds to pay mentor teachers in  
8 the program and stipends to the student interns in  
9 both the on-going master of education in teaching  
10 program cohort and to expand funding to include the  
11 native Hawaiian master of education in teacher program  
12 cohort;

- 13 (7) Provide funding for the office of school redesign at  
14 the University of Hawaii at Manoa (fiscal year 2007-  
15 2008: \$300,000; fiscal year 2008-2009: \$300,000).  
16 The office of school redesign will provide technical  
17 support to public secondary schools and help in the  
18 development and implementation of small learning  
19 communities within large secondary schools throughout  
20 the State. With the appropriated moneys, the office  
21 will:



- 1 (A) Maintain a research database on the creation and  
2 effectiveness of small redesigned secondary  
3 schools;
- 4 (B) Lead state advocacy efforts for the creation of  
5 small redesigned secondary schools;
- 6 (C) Provide technical assistance to schools engaging  
7 in redesign through professional development  
8 institutes, facilitating/arranging visitations to  
9 exemplary or merging sites in Hawaii and  
10 elsewhere, and preparing/supporting a cadre of  
11 on-site coaches;
- 12 (D) Develop and promote connections and professional  
13 development opportunities for learning and  
14 sharing among local change agents;
- 15 (E) Participate with national networks of  
16 practitioners and researchers involved in  
17 launching or redesigning schools and school  
18 systems;
- 19 (F) Promote the concept of a research cadre that will  
20 be involved in developing, documenting, and  
21 disseminating understandings about school  
22 redesign, and contributing to a research



- 1 database. Promote and facilitate dialogue among  
2 various school shareholders with respect to the  
3 most current research and understandings about  
4 school redesign;
- 5 (G) Foster communication among educators, decision-  
6 makers, and the greater community to advance  
7 secondary school redesign; and
- 8 (H) Assist schools in preparing grant applications to  
9 advance redesign activities;
- 10 (8) Continue to support the collaboration of the college  
11 of education in filling the gap in producing highly  
12 qualified teachers. The Teach for America program in  
13 Hawaii is a partnership of the Hawaii department of  
14 education, the University of Hawaii college of  
15 education, and the national Teach for America program  
16 with support from the state legislature, the  
17 governor's office, and private  
18 foundations/corporations. The intent is to provide  
19 highly qualified teachers in traditionally hard to  
20 fill areas such as mathematics, science, and special  
21 education, to serve in high poverty, high need  
22 communities. These are areas that the institutions of





1 higher education in Hawaii collectively have been  
2 consistently unable to address. Teach for America is  
3 currently recruiting teachers to fill Hawaii  
4 vacancies. The college of education requests funding  
5 to provide a masters of education in teaching degree  
6 for newly hired Teach for America teachers (4  
7 positions for fiscal year 2008: \$250,000; 4 positions  
8 for fiscal year 2009 \$250,000); and  
9 (9) Create a seamless career pathway from high school to  
10 community college to baccalaureate completion  
11 preparing education assistants and teachers to fill  
12 high need areas through Leeward community college and  
13 the University of Hawaii at Manoa college of  
14 education. Leeward community college and the college  
15 of education will work together to recruit, train, and  
16 retain prospective education assistants,  
17 paraprofessionals, and elementary and secondary  
18 teachers by combining resources to reach out to  
19 community members interested in pursuing a career in  
20 education. Leeward community college will provide  
21 education training resulting in an associate of arts  
22 in teaching degree. The college of education will



1 accept Leeward community college associate of arts in  
2 teaching degree holders into an upper division cohort  
3 specially designed for associate of arts in teaching  
4 graduates that will lead to state teacher licensure.  
5 Courses will be delivered in Leeward communities  
6 through face-to-face, distance learning, and/or hybrid  
7 instruction. Leeward community college requests 2.5  
8 positions (fiscal year 2008: \$158,000; fiscal year  
9 2009: \$158,000). College of education requests 3  
10 positions (fiscal year 2008: \$255,000; fiscal year  
11 2009: \$255,000).

12 The legislature further finds that most reform efforts in  
13 the United States have the benefit of a well-funded, independent  
14 policy research institute to assist policy makers. The Hawaii  
15 educational policy center, located at the University of Hawaii,  
16 has provided valuable analysis in the past, but has not received  
17 the financial commitment from the State to permit the level of  
18 assistance needed by policy makers in the field of education.

19 The purpose of this Act is to provide funding for key  
20 programs that will increase the capacity of the college of  
21 education to educate qualified teachers, meet federal  
22 requirements for institutional support of disability studies,



1 expand teacher professional development and mentoring programs,  
2 and transfer the office of school redesign from the department  
3 of education to the University of Hawaii. In addition, this Act  
4 will:

- 5 (1) Update the performance standards commission membership  
6 and reporting schedule;
- 7 (2) Remove references to specific federal laws and the  
8 current testing grades in anticipation of possible  
9 federal changes in law;
- 10 (3) Call for greater focus on the use of alternative  
11 assessments based on performance of students;
- 12 (4) Call for a more concerted effort to develop a more  
13 comprehensive "growth model" for Hawaii public  
14 schools;
- 15 (5) Provide funds to the Hawaii educational policy center  
16 to take the lead in the development of these  
17 assessments and to continue to provide expert analysis  
18 and commentary to assist policy makers;
- 19 (6) Clarify the dual purposes of the Hawaii educator loan  
20 program; and
- 21 (7) Amend the amounts of loan forgiveness for the Hawaii  
22 educator loan program.



1 SECTION 2. Section 302A-201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 **"§302A-201 Statewide performance standards.** (a) The  
4 board shall establish statewide performance standards and the  
5 means to assess the standards based upon the recommendations in  
6 the final report of the performance standards commission  
7 established pursuant to Act 334, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991;  
8 provided that the board may review and modify the performance  
9 standards, as the board deems necessary, to reflect the needs of  
10 public school students and educational goals adopted by the  
11 board.

12 (b) The board shall appoint a performance standards review  
13 commission, to be convened at the beginning of the 1997-1998  
14 school year, and every four years thereafter, to assess the  
15 effectiveness of the performance standards. The commission  
16 shall include representatives of the Hawaii State Parent,  
17 Teacher, Student Association; the Hawaii State Student Council;  
18 the superintendent; the dean of the college of education of the  
19 University of Hawaii; the executive director of the charter  
20 schools administrative office; and the professional education  
21 community. [~~The commission may request the assistance of such~~  
22 ~~department or school staff as may be necessary to facilitate its~~



1 ~~review.]~~ The commission shall be staffed by the Hawaii  
2 educational policy center.

3 (c) The commission shall review the implementation of the  
4 performance standards by the board and the schools to determine  
5 whether the standards should be modified. In making this  
6 determination, the commission shall seek public input by holding  
7 public forums to discuss the implementation and effectiveness of  
8 the performance standards. The commission shall submit a report  
9 of its findings and recommendations regarding the effectiveness  
10 of the standards and the need for modification of the standards  
11 to the board and the legislature prior to the convening of the  
12 1999 regular session. The board shall consider and implement  
13 the modifications beginning with the 1999-2000 school year.

14 (d) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the  
15 department shall establish procedures and guidelines for, and  
16 shall expand, its statewide assessment program to include norm-  
17 referenced testing in the same grades as required by [the]  
18 federal [~~No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (Public Law 107-110)]~~  
19 standards-based [~~assessment (grades 3 through 8 and one grade in~~  
20 ~~high school) in reading and math, using the most appropriate~~  
21 ~~nationally normed test.]~~ assessments.



1        (e) The department shall work with the University of  
2 Hawaii and other educational organizations to develop  
3 alternative assessment tools, including the use of portfolios  
4 that may be used as part of the University of Hawaii's admission  
5 standards, performance-based assessments that provide  
6 alternatives to schools and students to the multiple-choice  
7 formats, as well as assessments that measure the academic growth  
8 of students while at a school. The department and the  
9 University of Hawaii shall report annually to the legislature on  
10 the progress in development of these alternatives."

11        SECTION 3. Section 304A-701, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13        "~~+~~**§304A-701**~~+~~ **Hawaii educator loans; eligibility;**  
14 **amounts~~-~~; forgiveness.** (a) There is created the Hawaii  
15 educator loan program to be administered by the University of  
16 Hawaii, ~~[to provide financial support to students who complete]~~  
17 the purpose of which is to:

- 18        (1) Provide recruitment incentives for students to enroll  
19                in state-approved teacher education programs; and
- 20        (2) Provide a retention incentive for teachers who have  
21                graduated from a state-approved teacher education



1 program and who agree to teach in the Hawaii public  
2 school system.

3 Eligibility shall be awarded by the university to students on a  
4 competitive basis.

5 (b) The amount to be loaned to a student under the  
6 recruitment incentive loan portion shall be determined by the  
7 board of regents based on need for financial aid and proof of  
8 acceptance into a state-approved teacher education program at  
9 the university. The maximum amount of loans that a student may  
10 receive under this program shall be an aggregate amount  
11 equivalent to tuition payments and costs of textbooks and other  
12 instructional materials necessary to complete a state-approved  
13 teacher education program.

14 (c) Any loan provided under this section shall be eligible  
15 loan forgiveness as provided under section 304A-702."

16 SECTION 4. Section 304A-702, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended as follows:

18 1. By amending subsection (b) to read:

19 "(b) Upon a showing of proof that the loan recipient has  
20 completed a state-approved teacher education program and is  
21 employed as a full-time teacher in the Hawaii public school  
22 system, [~~one-tenth~~] per cent of the total amount of the loan



1 and interest shall be waived for every year of the first [~~five~~  
2 three years, and the remaining balance shall be waived after the  
3 sixth year that a loan recipient teaches in a Hawaii public  
4 school in a hard-to-fill position as determined by the  
5 superintendent of education, including special education,  
6 regular education shortage categories, or Title 1 schools, and  
7 in one of the following capacities:

8 (1) As an elementary school teacher teaching in the field  
9 of elementary education who has met standards as set  
10 forth by the Hawaii teacher standards board; or

11 (2) As a secondary school teacher teaching in the subject  
12 area that is relevant to the loan recipient's academic  
13 major as certified by the department of education who  
14 has met standards as set forth by the Hawaii teacher  
15 standards board."

16 2. By amending subsection (d) to read:

17 "(d) If a loan recipient subject to this section fails to  
18 teach in the Hawaii public school system for a minimum of [~~ten~~  
19 six consecutive years from the loan recipient's original date of  
20 employment with the department of education[7] or a charter  
21 school, excluding sabbatical and other forms of temporary leaves





1 of absence, then the loan recipient shall repay any remaining  
2 loan balance at the rate of ten per cent simple interest."

3 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
6 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
7 year 2008-2009, for the University of Hawaii to carry out the  
8 purposes of this Act, including the hiring of necessary staff;  
9 provided that:

10 (1) For fiscal year 2007-2008 the sums appropriated shall  
11 be allocated as follows:

12 (A) \$65,000 for an additional position for the  
13 college of education to increase teacher  
14 education capacity;

15 (B) \$125,000 for funding mentor teachers;

16 (C) \$250,000 to enable schools to apply to become  
17 professional development schools;

18 (D) \$700,000 for the master of education in teaching  
19 program;

20 (E) \$300,000 for the office of school redesign;



- 1 (F) \$250,000 for the college of education to fund
- 2 masters of education in teaching degrees for
- 3 teachers;
- 4 (G) \$158,000 for 2.5 (FTE) positions for Leeward
- 5 community college for educational training;
- 6 (H) \$255,000 for 3.0 (FTE) positions for the college
- 7 of education for educational training; and
- 8 (I) \$ for the Hawaii educator loan program.
- 9 (2) For fiscal year 2008-2009 the sums appropriated shall
- 10 be allocated as follows:
- 11 (A) \$130,000 shall be for 2.0 (FTE) positions for the
- 12 college of education to increase teacher
- 13 education capacity;
- 14 (B) \$120,000 for 2.0 (FTE) positions for the center
- 15 on disability studies;
- 16 (C) \$125,000 for funding mentor teachers;
- 17 (D) \$250,000 to enable schools to apply to become
- 18 professional development schools;
- 19 (E) \$500,000 for permanent special education faculty;
- 20 (F) \$700,000 for the master of education in teaching
- 21 program;
- 22 (G) \$300,000 for the office of school redesign;



- 1           (H) \$250,000 for the college of education to fund
- 2           masters of education in teaching degrees for
- 3           teachers;
- 4           (I) \$158,000 for 2.5 (FTE) positions for Leeward
- 5           community college for educational training;
- 6           (J) \$255,000 for 3.0 (FTE) positions for the college
- 7           of education for educational training; and
- 8           (K) \$           for the Hawaii educator loan program.

9           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
10 of Hawaii.

11           SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$400,000, or so much  
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
14 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
15 2008-2009, to the Hawaii educational policy center at the  
16 University of Hawaii to provide staff for the performance  
17 standards commission; to work with the department of education  
18 and other educational research organizations, such as Kamehameha  
19 Schools; to develop alternative assessment tools, including a  
20 comprehensive "growth model" for use in measuring student  
21 achievement over time at a school; and to provide independent



1 comment and analysis on issues before the legislature, the board  
2 of education, and the department of education.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
4 of Hawaii.

5 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
8 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
9 year 2008-2009, for the operations of the teacher cadet program,  
10 including recruitment, retention, training, and teacher support.

11 The sums appropriated shall be deposited into the Hawaii  
12 teacher cadet program fund for the purposes of this Act;  
13 provided that the Hawaii Alliance for Future Teachers match the  
14 amounts as provided in section 302A-401.5, Hawaii Revised  
15 Statutes.

16 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
19 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
20 year 2008-2009, for induction teacher mentoring for newly  
21 licensed teachers and licensed teachers who are new to Hawaii  
22 based upon a 15:1 teacher to mentor ratio.



1 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
2 of education for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 9. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

6

INTRODUCED BY:

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**Report Title:**

UH; Office of School Design; Teacher Education; Hawaii  
Educational Policy Center; Appropriation

**Description:**

Changes the performance standards commission membership and reporting schedule. Clarifies the intended purpose of the Hawaii educator loan program and amends the loan forgiveness incentive provisions. Appropriates funds to the University of Hawaii for the office of school redesign, teacher education and professional development, the master of education in teaching degree program, additional staff for the Hawaii educational policy center, and the Hawaii educator loan program.

