
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE HAWAII TEACHER CADET PROGRAM.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii continues to
2 have a critical shortage of trained teachers in the public
3 school system. Between 1999 and 2007, about 1500 new teachers
4 were needed every year to simply fill the vacancies created by
5 retirement or attrition. Unfortunately, the number of new
6 teachers graduating and getting licensed each year falls far
7 short of the actual demand, and the state loses many of its
8 newly minted educators to the mainland.

9 In 2002, the teacher cadet program was established by the
10 Hawaii Alliance for Future Teachers, a grass-roots organization
11 that works to home-grow teachers in Hawaii. In partnership with
12 the department of education, the alliance has been able to offer
13 an "explorations in education" course in the public schools.
14 Course content includes learning styles, self-assessment,
15 developmental stages of learning, governance in schools, history
16 of education in the United States and Hawaii, and realities of
17 the teaching profession, including salary information. One
18 important component of the course is the field experience, which



1 provides students a chance to actually teach and work with both
2 teachers and students.

3 Over the course of three years, approximately 200 high
4 school students, mostly seniors, have completed the course, and
5 feedback about the course has been overwhelmingly positive. The
6 alliance hopes to recruit more public schools to offer this
7 course to more students. The ongoing goal is to recruit the
8 best and brightest students for the course. A database system
9 now tracks all of the students who have completed the teacher
10 cadet program.

11 The purpose of this Act is to address the teacher shortage
12 in Hawaii by appropriating funds for the Hawaii teacher cadet
13 program, including its operations. These operations include the
14 recruitment of additional schools, training of teachers, teacher
15 support, mentoring of students, and tracking of students in the
16 program.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to the
20 Hawaii teacher cadet program.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
22 education.



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
4 operations of the Hawaii teacher cadet program, including
5 recruitment of additional schools, training of teachers, teacher
6 support, mentoring of students, and tracking of students in the
7 program.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
9 education for the purposes of this Act; provided that the
10 teacher labor necessary to carry out the operations of the
11 Hawaii teacher cadet program shall be provided by the Hawaii
12 Alliance for Future Teachers on a strictly voluntary basis.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Teacher Cadet Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Hawaii teacher cadet program.
(HB2279 HD1)

