
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INCARCERATED PERSONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 353-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§353-19 Compensation for labor or training by committed**
4 **persons.** Every committed person, who is working within a state
5 correctional facility or who is in such training or educational
6 programs as the director or a designated agent pursuant to law
7 prescribes, may be allowed such graduated sums of money as the
8 director by ~~[rule]~~ policy determines. Any committed person,
9 other than persons on work furlough, engaged in work, training,
10 or education pursuant to this section or work pursuant to this
11 chapter or chapter 354D shall not be ~~[affected by chapter 386.]~~
12 considered an employee or in employment."

13 SECTION 2. Section 383-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "**§383-7 Excluded service.** "Employment" shall not include
16 the following service:

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1 (1) Agricultural labor as defined in section 383-9 if it
2 is performed by an individual who is employed by an
3 employing unit:

4 (A) Which, during each calendar quarter in both the
5 current and the preceding calendar years, paid
6 less than \$20,000 in cash remuneration to
7 individuals employed in agricultural labor; and

8 (B) Which had, in each of the current and the
9 preceding calendar years:

10 (i) No more than nineteen calendar weeks,
11 whether consecutive or not, in which
12 agricultural labor was performed by its
13 employees; or

14 (ii) No more than nine individuals in its employ
15 performing agricultural labor in any one
16 calendar week, whether or not the same
17 individuals performed the labor in each
18 week;

19 (2) Domestic service in a private home, local college
20 club, or local chapter of a college fraternity or
21 sorority as set forth in section 3306(c)(2) of the
22 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

1 (3) Service not in the course of the employing unit's
2 trade or business performed in any calendar quarter by
3 an individual, unless the cash remuneration paid for
4 the service is \$50 or more and the service is
5 performed by an individual who is regularly employed
6 by the employing unit to perform the service. For the
7 purposes of this paragraph, an individual shall be
8 deemed to be regularly employed to perform service not
9 in the course of an employing unit's trade or business
10 during a calendar quarter only if:

11 (A) On each of some twenty-four days during the
12 quarter the individual performs the service for
13 some portion of the day; or

14 (B) The individual was regularly employed as
15 determined under subparagraph (A) by the
16 employing unit in the performance of the service
17 during the preceding calendar quarter;

18 (4) (A) Service performed on or in connection with a
19 vessel not an American vessel, if the individual
20 performing the service is employed on and in
21 connection with the vessel when outside the
22 United States;

1 (B) Service performed by an individual in (or as an
2 officer or member of the crew of a vessel while
3 it is engaged in) the catching, taking,
4 harvesting, cultivating, or farming of any kind
5 of fish, shellfish, crustacea, sponges, seaweeds,
6 or other aquatic forms of animal and vegetable
7 life, including service performed as an ordinary
8 incident thereto, except:

9 (i) The service performed in connection with a
10 vessel of more than ten net tons (determined
11 in the manner provided for determining the
12 register tonnage of merchant vessels under
13 the laws of the United States);

14 (ii) The service performed in connection with a
15 vessel of ten net tons or less (determined
16 in the manner provided for determining the
17 register tonnage of merchant vessels under
18 the laws of the United States) by an
19 individual who is employed by an employing
20 unit which had in its employ one or more
21 individuals performing the service for some
22 portion of a day in each of twenty calendar

1 weeks all occurring, whether consecutive or
2 not, in either the current or the preceding
3 calendar year; and

4 (iii) Service performed in connection with the
5 catching or taking of salmon or halibut for
6 commercial purposes;

7 (5) Service performed by an individual in the employ of
8 the individual's son, daughter, or spouse, and service
9 performed by a child under the age of twenty-one in
10 the employ of the child's father or mother;

11 (6) Service performed in the employ of the United States
12 government or an instrumentality of the United States
13 exempt under the Constitution of the United States
14 from the contributions imposed by this chapter, except
15 that to the extent that the Congress of the United
16 States permits states to require any instrumentalities
17 of the United States to make payments into an
18 unemployment fund under a state unemployment
19 compensation law, all of the provisions of this
20 chapter shall apply to those instrumentalities, and to
21 services performed for those instrumentalities, in the
22 same manner, to the same extent, and on the same terms

1 as to all other employers, employing units,
2 individuals, and services; provided that if this State
3 is not certified for any year by the Secretary of
4 Labor under section 3304(c) of the federal Internal
5 Revenue Code, the payments required of those
6 instrumentalities with respect to that year shall be
7 refunded by the department of labor and industrial
8 relations from the fund in the same manner and within
9 the same period as is provided in section 383-76 with
10 respect to contributions erroneously collected;

- 11 (7) Service performed in the employ of any other state, or
12 any political subdivision thereof, or any
13 instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing
14 which is wholly owned by one or more states or
15 political subdivisions; and any service performed in
16 the employ of any instrumentality of one or more other
17 states or their political subdivisions to the extent
18 that the instrumentality is, with respect to the
19 service, exempt from the tax imposed by section 3301
20 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended;

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- 1 (8) Service with respect to which unemployment
- 2 compensation is payable under an unemployment system
- 3 established by an act of Congress;

- 4 (9) (A) Service performed in any calendar quarter in the
- 5 employ of any organization exempt from income tax
- 6 under section 501(a) of the federal Internal
- 7 Revenue Code (other than an organization
- 8 described in section 401(a) or under section 521
- 9 of the Code), if:
- 10 (i) The remuneration for the service is less
- 11 than \$50; or
- 12 (ii) The service is performed by a fully
- 13 ordained, commissioned, or licensed minister
- 14 of a church in the exercise of the
- 15 minister's ministry or by a member of a
- 16 religious order in the exercise of duties
- 17 required by the order;

- 18 (B) Service performed in the employ of a school,
- 19 college, or university, if the service is
- 20 performed by a student who is enrolled and is
- 21 regularly attending classes at the school,
- 22 college, or university; or

- 1 (C) Service performed by an individual who is
2 enrolled at a nonprofit or public educational
3 institution which normally maintains a regular
4 faculty and curriculum and normally has a
5 regularly organized body of students in
6 attendance at the place where its educational
7 activities are carried on as a student in a full-
8 time program, taken for credit at such
9 institution, which combines academic instruction
10 with work experience, if such service is an
11 integral part of such program, and such
12 institution has so certified to the employer,
13 except that this subparagraph shall not apply to
14 service performed in a program established for or
15 on behalf of an employer or group of employers;
- 16 (10) Service performed in the employ of a foreign
17 government (including service as a consular or other
18 officer or employee of a nondiplomatic
19 representative);
- 20 (11) Service performed in the employ of an instrumentality
21 wholly owned by a foreign government:

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(A) If the service is of a character similar to that performed in foreign countries by employees of the United States government or of an instrumentality thereof; and

(B) If the United States Secretary of State has certified or certifies to the United States Secretary of the Treasury that the foreign government, with respect to whose instrumentality exemption is claimed, grants an equivalent exemption with respect to similar service performed in the foreign country by employees of the United States government and of instrumentalities thereof;

(12) Service performed as a student nurse in the employ of a hospital or a nurses' training school by an individual who is enrolled and is regularly attending classes in a nurses' training school chartered or approved pursuant to state law; and service performed as an intern in the employ of a hospital by an individual who has completed a four-year course in a medical school chartered or approved pursuant to state law;

- 1 (13) Service performed by an individual for an employing
2 unit as an insurance producer, if all service
3 performed by the individual for the employing unit is
4 performed for remuneration solely by way of
5 commission;
- 6 (14) Service performed by an individual under the age of
7 eighteen in the delivery or distribution of newspapers
8 or shopping news, not including delivery or
9 distribution to any point for subsequent delivery or
10 distribution;
- 11 (15) Service covered by an arrangement between the
12 department and the agency charged with the
13 administration of any other state or federal
14 unemployment compensation law pursuant to which all
15 services performed by an individual for an employing
16 unit during the period covered by the employing unit's
17 duly approved election, are deemed to be performed
18 entirely within the agency's state;
- 19 (16) Service performed by an individual who, pursuant to
20 the Federal Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, is not
21 subject to the federal laws relating to unemployment
22 compensation;

- 1 (17) Service performed by an individual for an employing
2 unit as a real estate salesperson, if all service
3 performed by the individual for the employing unit is
4 performed for remuneration solely by way of
5 commission;
- 6 (18) Service performed by a registered sales representative
7 for a registered travel agency, when the service
8 performed by the individual for the travel agent is
9 performed for remuneration by way of commission;
- 10 (19) Service performed by a vacuum cleaner salesperson for
11 an employing unit, if all services performed by the
12 individual for the employing unit are performed for
13 remuneration solely by way of commission;
- 14 (20) Service performed for a family-owned private
15 corporation organized for profit that employs only
16 members of the family who each own at least fifty per
17 cent of the shares issued by the corporation; provided
18 that:
- 19 (A) The private corporation elects to be excluded
20 from coverage under this chapter;
- 21 (B) The election for exclusion shall apply to all
22 shareholders and under the same circumstances;

- 1 (C) No more than two members of a family may be
2 eligible per entity for exclusion under this
3 paragraph;
- 4 (D) The exclusion shall be irrevocable for five
5 years;
- 6 (E) The family-owned private corporation presents to
7 the department proof that it has paid federal
8 unemployment insurance taxes as required by
9 federal law; and
- 10 (F) The election to be excluded from coverage shall
11 be effective the first day of the calendar
12 quarter in which the application and all
13 substantiating documents requested by the
14 department are filed with the department;
- 15 (21) Service performed by a direct seller as defined in
16 section 3508 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
17 [and]
- 18 (22) Service performed by an election official or election
19 worker as defined in section 3309(b)(3)(F) of the
20 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended[-]; and
- 21 (23) Service performed by an inmate or any person committed
22 to a penal institution.

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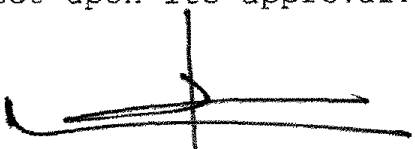
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2 None of the foregoing exclusions (1) to [~~+22~~] (23) shall
3 apply to any service with respect to which a tax is
4 required to be paid under any federal law imposing a tax
5 against which credit may be taken for contributions
6 required to be paid into a state unemployment fund or which
7 as a condition for full tax credit against the tax imposed
8 by the federal Unemployment Act is required to be covered
9 under this chapter.

10 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
11 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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

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INTRODUCED BY:



BY REQUEST

SB 1485

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO
INCARCERATED PERSONS.

PURPOSE: To clarify that participation in work,
education, and vocational training
programs while incarcerated is exempt
from statutory employee benefits.

MEANS: Amend sections 353-19 and 383-7, Hawaii
Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: The Department of Public Safety provides
work, education, and vocational training
programs. Although inmates who
participate in these programs may receive
moneys as positive reinforcement for good
behavior, inmates were never intended to
be employees. In 2001, a released inmate
applied for and was granted unemployment
benefits based in part on work done while
incarcerated.

Although the Federal Unemployment Tax Act
clearly exempts inmates from unemployment
benefits, the Department of Labor and
Industrial Relations believes the State
of Hawaii does not provide a similar
clear and unequivocal exemption. If
inmates are treated as state employees,
the work, education, and vocational
training programs would be financially
impacted and may be required to shut
down.

Impact on the public: None.

Impact on the department and other
agencies: Should this legislation not be
approved, all Department of Public Safety

work programs may be negatively impacted. The cost of unemployment insurance and other statutorially created employee benefits could force the closure of inmate work programs, which effects inmate rehabilitation.

The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations would not be required to take into account employment by a correctional facility when a released person files for unemployment benefits.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: PSD 900

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: Department of Labor and Industrial
Relations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.