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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 purpose of this Act is to:
- 2 (1) Create a new category of high schools within the
- 3 department of education that will link the curriculum
- 4 of a school to the mission of a particular agency or
- 5 University of Hawaii campus and the private sector
- 6 work force;
- 7 (2) Establishing the Hawaii excellence through science and
- 8 technology (HiEST) academy program to increase
- 9 preparedness for post-secondary education and the
- 10 workforce;
- 11 (3) Establishing the robotics and space contextual
- 12 learning program to develop science, technology,
- 13 engineering, and math (STEM) skills among students;
- 14 (4) Establishing the business/education internship and
- 15 mentorship program to increase opportunities for high
- 16 school and college students to gain work experience;
- 17 and



1 (5) Support smaller learning communities grants that are  
2 currently in existence in public school high schools.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
5 to read as follows:

6 **"PART . APPLIED LEARNING HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIES**

7 **§302A- Definitions.** Whenever used in this part, unless  
8 the context otherwise requires:

9 "Applied learning high school academy" means a department  
10 of education high school, or school within a school, with an  
11 approved five-year plan to deliver an applied learning  
12 curriculum, including project EAST (environmental and spatial  
13 technology) programs and STEM (science, technology, engineering,  
14 and mathematics) programs, linked to the mission of a state  
15 agency or University of Hawaii campus, college, program, or  
16 department, which includes a significant contribution of land,  
17 facilities, personnel, or other resources by that agency or  
18 campus.

19 "Department" means the department of education.

20 **§302A- Applied learning high school academies.** (a) The  
21 department shall establish and administer an applied learning  
22 high school academy program.



1 (b) The applied learning high school academy program shall  
2 be administered by a director who shall:

3 (1) Collaborate with the director of business, economic  
4 development, and tourism and the workforce development  
5 council to assess the workforce needs of the State and  
6 devise methods of meeting those needs within the  
7 applied learning high school academy program;

8 (2) Assist schools, complex areas, and districts in  
9 establishing applied learning high school academy  
10 programs;

11 (3) Review school applications for approval of applied  
12 learning high school academy programs;

13 (4) Evaluate existing programs;

14 (5) Incorporate programs within the model, including  
15 project EAST (environmental and spatial technology)  
16 and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and  
17 mathematics) programs;

18 (6) In collaboration with the University of Hawaii,  
19 initiate research and studies for the improvement of  
20 curriculum materials for specialty areas of applied  
21 learning high school academies;



- 1           (7)    Ensure that the standards and criteria developed under  
2                    this section satisfy the mandates of federally  
3                    assisted vocational education;
- 4           (8)    Develop in-service programs for teachers and  
5                    administrators;
- 6           (9)    Assist in teacher recruitment and placement in applied  
7                    learning high school academy programs;
- 8           (10)   Serve as a liaison with the representatives of  
9                    business, industry, appropriate public agencies, and  
10                   institutions of higher education to facilitate  
11                   dissemination of information;
- 12          (11)   Promote links with private sector employers in Hawaii;
- 13          (12)   Promote and assist in the development of adult  
14                   continuing education and college-level education  
15                   programs in private industry; and
- 16          (13)   Establish an advisory task force representing the  
17                   diverse areas of industry in the State, which shall  
18                   make annual recommendations on the development of  
19                   curriculum, staffing, and strategies to establish a  
20                   source of trained and qualified individuals and  
21                   strategies for developing the applied learning high



1 school academies program, including youth leadership  
2 throughout the public schools.

3 (c) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91  
4 for the purposes of this part.

5 **§302A- Applied learning high school academies;**

6 **application and approval.** (a) Any community, group of high  
7 school teachers, group of teachers and administrators, state  
8 agency, or nonprofit organization may submit a letter of intent  
9 to the department to convert a department high school into an  
10 applied learning high school academy and shall develop a  
11 detailed five-year plan that shall include its plan to secure  
12 significant support of the high school from the co-sponsoring  
13 state agency or University of Hawaii campus.

14 (b) Applied learning high school academies may be  
15 developed with a focus on agriculture, landscape education,  
16 marine science, astronomy, high technology, public health,  
17 visitor industries, human resource services, culture and  
18 language, environmental sciences, visual arts, performing arts,  
19 project EAST (environmental and spatial technology) program  
20 subjects, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and  
21 mathematics) program subjects, or other thematic areas of  
22 interest to agencies and University of Hawaii campuses.



1 (c) The plan shall be approved by the superintendent, the  
2 high school's school community council, and the complex area  
3 superintendent; provided that the evaluation of the application  
4 plans shall incorporate the following criteria:

- 5 (1) The degree to which the plan strives to provide  
6 students with experiences outside the school walls;
- 7 (2) Opportunities for juniors to complete a semester-long  
8 academic internship in a local business or agency;
- 9 (3) Opportunities for seniors to develop substantial  
10 projects that enable the students to learn while  
11 working on problems of interest and concern in the  
12 community; and
- 13 (4) Opportunities for ninth and tenth grade students to  
14 "shadow" an adult through a workday, perform community  
15 service in a group project, or engage in lunches with  
16 outside adults on issues of interest.

17 (d) Upon approval of the five-year plan, the school  
18 community council shall have the same independent authority over  
19 curriculum of the applied learning high school academy for the  
20 five-year period as the charter school local school boards.



1 (e) The applied learning high school academy's success  
2 shall be evaluated by the board of education following each  
3 five-year period, and may be renewed thereafter."

4 SECTION 3. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately  
6 designated and to read as follows:

7 "§304A- Hawaii excellence through science and technology  
8 academy program; established. (a) There is established within  
9 the University of Hawaii community college system, the statewide  
10 Hawaii excellence through science and technology academy  
11 program. The program shall be headed by a director and staffed  
12 by one support specialist, one secretary, and one support  
13 position.

14 The purpose of the Hawaii excellence through science and  
15 technology academy program shall be to increase the readiness  
16 and motivation of Hawaii high school graduates to pursue post-  
17 secondary training and career options in science, technology,  
18 engineering, and math disciplines.

19 (b) The Hawaii excellence through science and technology  
20 academy program shall partner with the department of education,  
21 interested high schools, and appropriate public, nonprofit, and  
22 private agencies, to establish individual Hawaii excellence



1 through science and technology academies at up to fourteen  
2 selected high schools throughout the State. School  
3 participation in the Hawaii excellence through science and  
4 technology program shall be voluntary. The selected high  
5 schools shall provide space on or adjacent to their campuses for  
6 the academy program. All instructors in the high school  
7 academies shall be certified to teach at both department of  
8 education and community college standards; provided that courses  
9 taught through the academies shall provide students with both  
10 high school and University of Hawaii academic credits to the  
11 maximum extent possible.

12 (c) The Hawaii excellence through science and technology  
13 academy program shall place priority on engaging students who  
14 are not involved in advanced placement programs, international  
15 baccalaureate programs, or advanced science and mathematics  
16 programs. The intent of the program shall be to produce better-  
17 prepared graduates, able to transfer to the colleges of their  
18 choice without the need for remediation.

19 The Hawaii excellence through science and technology  
20 academy shall support the partnership of the University of  
21 Hawaii and the department of education in the American diploma  
22 project, which establishes a dialogue and joint curriculum





1 assessment between teachers from high schools and colleges.  
2 This dialogue shall help to ensure a smooth transition from high  
3 schools to college and improve the abilities of students to meet  
4 their educational and career objectives.

5 (d) Each Hawaii excellence through science and technology  
6 academy shall have a lead instructor employed by the community  
7 college system. Additional qualified instructors may be hired  
8 by the community colleges. Teachers, including those with the  
9 department of education, may also teach within the academy  
10 program after appropriate certification training by the  
11 community college system.

12 Each of the seven community colleges of the University of  
13 Hawaii shall endeavor to partner with two high schools on its  
14 respective island to establish the fourteen Hawaii excellence  
15 through science and technology academies statewide. Each  
16 community college shall also consult regularly with the  
17 respective county economic development board, workforce  
18 investment boards, and other stakeholders to advise them of  
19 plans and progress on development of the Hawaii excellence  
20 through science and technology academies and to invite input.

21 (e) Hawaii excellence through science and technology  
22 academies shall work with the host high school to implement the



1 required academic programs as well as project-based, contextual  
2 learning programs designed to use and expand students' academic  
3 skills. The programs shall be designed primarily for grades  
4 eleven and twelve for math, science, and technology, coupled  
5 with math development for grades nine and ten.

6 Each high school academy program will strive to enroll at  
7 least twenty-five per cent of the high school student body in  
8 academy programs within two years of its inception. The  
9 statewide fourteen Hawaii excellence through science and  
10 technology academies shall strive to serve four thousand high  
11 school students by the end of its second year of operation with  
12 one thousand graduating from high school and the Hawaii  
13 excellence through science and technology academies per year.

14 (f) The academy system shall also strive to reduce the  
15 need for math and English remediation among its graduated  
16 academy members attending post-secondary training to no more  
17 than twenty per cent. The academy shall develop performance  
18 measures to ensure that the programs conducted are contributing  
19 substantially and directly to an increase in high school  
20 graduates ultimately entering post-secondary science,  
21 technology, engineering, and math programs and pursuing science,  
22 technology, engineering, and math related occupations.



1           §304A-     Robotics and space contextual learning program;  
2 established.   (a) There is established within the University of  
3 Hawaii the robotics and space contextual learning program, which  
4 shall be headed by a state coordinator and staffed by two field  
5 staff. The mission of the robotics and space contextual  
6 learning program shall be to develop science, technology,  
7 engineering, and math skills among students in Hawaii excellence  
8 through science and technology academy programs through  
9 robotics- and space-technology-based, contextual projects and  
10 competitions. The robotics and space contextual learning  
11 program shall work with existing programs to expand and deepen  
12 activities, including but not limited to National Aeronautics  
13 and Space Administration explorer schools, fostering inspiration  
14 and relevance through science and technology robotics, lego  
15 league, vex, botball, and underwater robotics challenges.

16           The director and staff of the robotics and space contextual  
17 learning program shall coordinate and cooperate with the  
18 director and staff of the Hawaii excellence through science and  
19 technology academy program in establishing a well integrated  
20 system of science, technology, engineering, and math related,  
21 contextual learning programs. The robotics and space contextual  
22 learning program shall enlist, encourage, train, and support



1 volunteer teachers and other mentors to conduct robotics- and  
2 space-related programs at the school level.

3 The goal of the robotics and space contextual learning  
4 program shall be to involve three thousand students."

5 SECTION 4. There is established within the department of  
6 business, economic development and tourism, the  
7 business/education internship and mentorship program. The  
8 purpose of this program shall be to establish, with the  
9 cooperation of educational institutions, intern, mentorship, and  
10 other experiential learning arrangements within the business  
11 community, the nonprofit sector, and the government, for Hawaii  
12 high school students and Hawaii high school graduates attending  
13 college in Hawaii or elsewhere. The goals of this program shall  
14 be to provide Hawaii students with experience in the world of  
15 work to improve their career choices, and to provide an  
16 opportunity for Hawaii employers to establish relationships with  
17 students who represent an essential source of skills for  
18 Hawaii's future economic growth and prosperity. The department  
19 may contract with appropriate government, nonprofit, or for-  
20 profit entities to accomplish the purpose and goals of this  
21 program.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, for  
4 the applied learning high school academies program established  
5 pursuant to section 2 of this Act.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
7 education for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of general revenues  
9 of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,204,016, or so much thereof  
10 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the amount of  
11 \$1,672,888, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
12 year 2008-2009, for establishing the Hawaii excellence through  
13 science and technology academy program.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University  
15 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general  
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$314,925, or so much  
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
19 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
20 2008-2009, for the robotics and space contextual learning  
21 program.



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

3           SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of general revenues  
4 of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$110,000, or so much thereof  
5 as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and \$110,000, or  
6 so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009,  
7 for the business and education internship and mentorship  
8 program.

9           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
10 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes  
11 of this Act.

12           SECTION 9. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

Applied Learning; Contextual Learning; Academies and Programs;  
Business/Education Internships and Mentorships; Establishment;  
Appropriations

**Description:**

Establishes the applied learning high school academies program for department of education public schools; supports smaller learning communities initiatives of the department of education public schools; establishes Hawaii excellence through science and technology academy program; establishes the robotics and space contextual learning program; establishes the business/education internship and mentorship program; and makes appropriations. (SD1)

