

JAN 17 2008

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 for the public
3 school system. Between 1999 and 2007, about fifteen hundred new
4 teachers were needed every year to simply fill the vacancies
5 created by retirement or attrition. In addition, the number of
6 new teachers graduating and getting licensed each year falls far
7 short of the actual demand. Unfortunately, the State also loses
8 many of its 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 Content of the course 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. Over the course of three years,
3 approximately two hundred high school students, mostly seniors,
4 have completed the course, and feedback about the course has
5 been overwhelmingly positive. A database system now tracks all
6 of the students who have completed the teacher cadet program,
7 and the ongoing goal is to recruit the best and brightest
8 students to take the course. The alliance also hopes to recruit
9 more public schools to offer this course to more students.

10 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
11 Hawaii teacher cadet program to address the teacher shortage in
12 Hawaii.

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

17 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
18 education.

19 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
20 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
21 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
22 operations of the Hawaii teacher cadet program, including



1 recruitment of additional schools, training of teachers, teacher
2 support, mentoring of students, and tracking of students in the
3 program.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
5 education for the purposes of this Act; provided that no funds
6 shall be released unless the Hawaii Alliance for Future Teachers
7 matches the amount of the funds appropriated for the purposes of
8 this Act, pursuant to section 302A-401.5, Hawaii Revised
9 Statutes.

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

11

INTRODUCED BY: *Shianne Chun Oakland*



Report Title:

Teacher Cadet Program; Department of Education; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Hawaii teacher cadet program to address the teacher shortage.

