
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE RUNNING START PROGRAM FOR COLLEGE PREPARATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. Students and families of underrepresented
2 populations in higher education are often discouraged by the
3 perceived costs of college attendance. Scholarships embedded in
4 a program of college preparation and support can be an effective
5 motivating factor for these students to pursue and attend
6 college.

7 Students often want to enroll in classes other than those
8 on the currently approved department of education list. They
9 should be allowed and, in fact, encouraged to take university
10 courses at the one-hundred level and above and have those
11 classes qualify as credit toward high school graduation.
12 Running start, a joint program of the department of education
13 and the University of Hawaii, created in section 302A-401,
14 Hawaii Revised Statutes, is helpful in preparing students of
15 underrepresented populations prepare for college entry. Earning
16 dual credit for both high school and college courses can provide



1 motivation and preparation that enhances these students'
2 opportunities to attend college.

3 Experience with the running start program has shown that
4 students in underrepresented populations may not be
5 participating in the program because of financial difficulty.
6 It has also shown that there has been some confusion in
7 obtaining dual credit for courses completed at the University of
8 Hawaii.

9 The purpose of this Act is to increase the financial
10 support to families of underrepresented college student
11 populations who participate in the running start program and
12 ensure those students earn credit toward their high school and
13 college degrees for the successful completion of University of
14 Hawaii courses at the one-hundred level and above.

15 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
17 and to read as follows:

18 "§302A- Running start credits. The department shall
19 provide students participating in the running start program
20 guidance to earn credit toward high school graduation for
21 satisfactory completion of University of Hawaii courses at the



1 one-hundred level and above in compliance with section
2 302A-401."

3 SECTION 3. Section 302A-401, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

5 "(d) College courses successfully completed under this
6 section shall also satisfy the department's graduation
7 requirements [~~as determined by the department pursuant to rule.~~]
8 for the corresponding high school requirement category. All
9 successfully completed courses at the one hundred level and
10 above shall be included in the students' records."

11 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000, 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 University of Hawaii scholarship and
16 assistance special fund.

17 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the University of
18 Hawaii scholarship and assistance special fund the sum of
19 \$50,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
20 2007-2008, and the same sum, or so much thereof as may be
21 necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009, to the University of Hawaii
22 to grant scholarships to students who are members of



1 underrepresented populations in higher education, as determined
2 by the University of Hawaii, to participate in the running start
3 program.

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

6 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
7 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,
9 provided that sections 4 and 5 shall take effect on July 1,
10 2007.



Report Title:

Education; Running Start Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates \$50,000 for each year of the fiscal biennium to the University of Hawaii scholarship and assistance special fund for scholarships to students in underrepresented populations in higher education for tuition at the University of Hawaii to participate in the running start college preparatory program and ensures credit for both high school and college degrees is granted for courses taken while in the program. (SD1)

