

JAN 18 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EMPLOYER WORKFORCE ASSISTANCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's economic
2 well-being is adversely affected by the difficulties employers
3 throughout the State are experiencing in finding and retaining
4 qualified workers. This issue may be partially addressed by
5 providing employers with information related to adjusting their
6 workforce practices during a labor shortage.

7 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the
8 department of labor and industrial relations to enable it to
9 contract for the design and implementation of a series of
10 internet-based and televised classes directed to employers on
11 topics such as recruiting and advertising; how to set up
12 apprenticeships; employment referral resources; programs to
13 attract, retain, and motivate employees; and information on
14 where to find training classes. The subject of the classes will
15 be determined by the contract recipient in consultation with the
16 Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, the Hawaii Business Roundtable,



1 and the Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii. The emphasis
2 of the classes will be placed on assisting small businesses.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$150,000, or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
6 same sum, or as much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2008-2009, to the department of labor and industrial relations
8 to contract for the design and implementation of a series of
9 electronically-delivered classes to provide employers with non-
10 traditional, innovative concepts and strategies to assist
11 employers in addressing workforce requirements.

12 The contract for services shall provide that:

13 (1) The delivery system of the classes shall:

14 (A) Be designed to provide the information in a
15 manner easily accessible and convenient to
16 employers;

17 (B) Include the use of the Internet and public
18 television; and

19 (C) Provide a mechanism by which questions can be
20 asked by employers and responses can be given by
21 experts in the particular subject area addressed;



- 1 (2) To the fullest extent possible, the contract recipient
2 shall:
- 3 (A) Seek additional funding from employers and the
4 county workforce investment boards;
- 5 (B) Facilitate participation in the training programs
6 by small businesses;
- 7 (C) Provide for sustainability of the internet
8 resource; and
- 9 (D) Consult with the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii,
10 the Hawaii Business Roundtable, and the Economic
11 Development Alliance of Hawaii with regard to
12 class subject matter;
- 13 (3) The contract recipient shall be required to provide a
14 plan for approval by the department of labor and
15 industrial relations' workforce development council
16 prior to the release of funds by the department of
17 labor and industrial relations; and
- 18 (4) To the extent that the sums appropriated by this Act
19 may be inadequate, priority shall be given to an
20 internet-based delivery system.



S.B. NO. 89

1 SECTION 3. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the
2 department of labor and industrial relations for the purposes of
3 this Act.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of labor and industrial relations to contract for the development and implementation of a program to assist employers with workforce requirements during labor shortages.

