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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT.

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

1           SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to address public  
2 employment. More specifically, this Act:

3           (1) Extends the enabling law for the voluntary employees'  
4           beneficiary association trust for six months in order  
5           to provide for a smoother transition to the Hawaii  
6           employer-union health benefits trust fund;

7           (2) Appropriates funds for five temporary positions to  
8           assist in the voluntary employees' beneficiary  
9           association trust transition; and

10          (3) Appropriates funds for five permanent positions to  
11          perform other employer-union health benefits trust  
12          fund duties.

13          The legislature finds that the employer-union health  
14          benefits trust fund staff is encountering difficulties  
15          performing its duties. The legislature believes that these  
16          difficulties are the result of an increased and more complex

1 workload, shortage of personnel, and absence of board and  
2 administrative leadership.

3 The legislature further finds that the enabling law for the  
4 voluntary employees' beneficiary association trust, an  
5 alternative health benefits system utilized by the employee  
6 organization for public school teachers, will sunset on July 1,  
7 2010. The legislature declares that it does not intend to make  
8 the enabling law permanent or to extend the sunset date for  
9 another pilot testing period.

10 Notwithstanding this intent, the legislature finds that the  
11 employer-union health benefits trust fund staff will have  
12 extreme difficulty in transitioning public school teachers and  
13 their dependents from the voluntary employees' beneficiary  
14 association trust to the employer-union health benefits trust  
15 fund on July 1, 2010, while performing their normal duties. The  
16 legislature does not want to place an excessive burden on the  
17 employer-union health benefits trust fund staff or cause  
18 uncertainty for public school teachers and their dependents who  
19 will have to transition from the voluntary employees'  
20 beneficiary association trust.

21 Thus, the legislature finds that the voluntary employees'  
22 beneficiary association trust enabling law should be extended

1 for six months and additional employer-union health benefits  
2 trust fund personnel funded to assist in the transition as well  
3 as to perform normal duties.

4 SECTION 2. Act 5, First Special Session Laws of Hawaii  
5 2008, is amended by amending section 1 to read as follows:

6 "SECTION 1. Act 245, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, as  
7 amended by Act 294, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007, is amended by  
8 amending section 2 to read as follows:

9 "SECTION 2. Act 245, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, is  
10 amended by amending section 8 to read as follows:

11 "SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,  
12 for the purpose of establishing a voluntary employees'  
13 beneficiary association trust pilot program in March, 2006 and  
14 shall be repealed on [~~July 17~~] December 31, 2010; provided that  
15 sections 89-2, 89-3, 89-6, and 89-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
16 are reenacted in the form in which they read on the day before  
17 the effective date of this Act.""

18 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the Hawaii  
19 employer-union health benefits trust fund of the State of Hawaii  
20 the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary  
21 for fiscal year 2010-2011 for five temporary positions under the  
22 Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund to assist in

1 the transition of public employees and their dependents from the  
2 voluntary employees' beneficiary association trust to the Hawaii  
3 employer-union health benefits trust fund on January 1, 2011.

4 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
5 employer-union health benefits trust fund for the purposes of  
6 this Act.

7 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the Hawaii  
8 employer-union health benefits trust fund of the State of Hawaii  
9 the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary  
10 for fiscal year 2010-2011 for five permanent positions under the  
11 Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund to assist in  
12 the performance of duties of the trust fund.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
14 employer-union health benefits trust fund for the purposes of  
15 this Act.

16 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
17 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010.

**Report Title:**

Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund Staffing;  
Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association Trust Transition

**Description:**

Extends the enabling law for the voluntary employees' beneficiary association trust from 07/01/10 to 12/31/10 in order to provide for a better transition to the Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund. Appropriates funds for more staff for the Hawaii employer-union health benefits trust fund.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*