

JAN 26 2011

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's community
2 colleges can play a critical role in the economic recovery and
3 revitalization of the State, from supporting individual workers
4 who go back to school for enhanced career opportunities to
5 helping companies and nonprofit organizations change the way
6 they do business in these difficult economic times.

7 Community colleges are at the forefront of workforce
8 training both locally and across the United States. Nationally,
9 fifty-nine per cent of new nurses and a majority of new health
10 care workers are educated at community colleges. Nearly eighty
11 per cent of firefighters, law enforcement officers, and
12 emergency medical technicians are credentialed at community
13 colleges. Ninety-five per cent of businesses and organizations
14 that employ community college graduates recommend and support
15 community college workforce education and training programs.

16 In Hawaii, enrollment in community colleges grew by ten per
17 cent in 2008, with the seven campuses serving a record 28,591
18 students. Hawaii's community colleges have been in the



1 forefront of helping employers improve their operations and
2 overall efficiency through training programs. For example,
3 during the five months that a first time supervisory training
4 program was offered, over three hundred thirty individuals
5 participated in the program, saving businesses \$71,000 through
6 discounted tuition fees. In response to mass layoffs at Aloha
7 Airlines, ATA, Molokai Ranch, and Weyerhaeuser, \$70,000 was
8 allocated from the community college rapid response fund to help
9 displaced workers. Eighty-four individuals took advantage of a
10 one-time fifty per cent tuition scholarship of up to \$500 per
11 displaced worker to enhance their job skills during the fall of
12 2008 and more students enrolled in the spring 2009 semester.

13 Hawaii's community colleges are poised to help both
14 employees and employers change the way they work. In the
15 context of new economic realities, employers need to consider
16 downsizing, cross-training, identifying efficiencies, and
17 developing new business models to survive and to preserve as
18 many jobs as possible. Employees need access to affordable
19 training and professional services that can be delivered in a
20 timely manner.

21 The purpose of this Act is to enhance the workforce
22 development capacity of Hawaii's community colleges by



1 establishing a skilled worker and business development center
2 that provides workforce development services to meet the rapidly
3 evolving needs of both employers and employees.

4 The skilled worker and business development center shall be
5 established at each community college and shall consist of
6 programs including job search assistance,, job referral,
7 placement assistance, reemployment services to unemployment
8 insurance claimants, and recruitment services to employers with
9 job openings.

10 This Act makes an appropriation to the University of Hawaii
11 to establish and implement the skilled worker and business
12 development center; provided that a specific amount of the
13 appropriation is allocated to each community college to
14 implement programs within the skilled worker and business
15 development center as they deem most appropriate for the
16 particular community they serve.

17 SECTION 2. (a) There is established under the University
18 of Hawaii's council of community college chancellors, a skilled
19 worker and business development center to develop curriculum to
20 assist businesses and nonprofit organizations retrain and cross-
21 train workers to adapt to the economic downturn and new
22 technology. The skilled worker and business development center



1 may be modeled after the Pacific center for advanced technology
2 training, which is a not-for-profit consortium of the University
3 of Hawaii community colleges.

4 The skilled worker and business development center shall
5 provide workforce development programs, including:

- 6 (1) Facilitated self-help courses that work with employees
7 to reassess skill sets, obtain additional training,
8 and consider new fields of work following a layoff or
9 loss of employment for other reason;
- 10 (2) Affordable re-training and cross-training programs to
11 assist specific small business and nonprofit
12 organizations that are in the process of reorganizing
13 their business plan or structure; and
- 14 (3) Specialized training courses to assist workers in
15 adapting to workplace changes, provided that the
16 necessity of the courses shall be supported by
17 empirical and statistical data.

18 (b) In addition to providing workforce development, the
19 skilled worker and business development center shall include a
20 two-fold counseling component providing:



1 (1) Assistance to businesses and nonprofit organizations
2 that face difficult economic times or changes in their
3 industry; and

4 (2) Occupational and career counseling for displaced
5 workers or other individuals.

6 (c) There is established an advisory board for the skilled
7 worker and business development center, which shall include
8 representatives from the:

9 (1) University of Hawaii community college system;

10 (2) Seven community college campuses;

11 (3) Department of education;

12 (4) County workforce investment boards;

13 (5) Hawaii Alliance of Nonprofit Organizations;

14 (6) Hawaii Community Foundation;

15 (7) Hawaii Business Roundtable Incorporated;

16 (8) Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii;

17 (9) Small Business Administration; and

18 (10) United States armed forces in Hawaii.

19 (d) The skilled worker and business development center
20 shall submit a report to the legislature no later than twenty
21 days prior to the convening of the 2012 regular session setting
22 forth, at minimum, the progress achieved regarding the



1 establishment and start-up of the skilled worker and business
2 development center; the development plan for the skilled worker
3 and business development center; funding options,
4 recommendations, and requirements for the skilled worker and
5 business development center and the specific programs thereunder
6 at the various community colleges. Funding options shall
7 include state funds, private funds, federal grants, and self-
8 generating income of the University of Hawaii.

9 Thereafter, the skilled worker and business development
10 center shall submit an annual report to the legislature no later
11 than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session
12 detailing the training and counseling programs, the numbers of
13 businesses, nonprofit organizations, and individuals
14 participating in the center programs, and the usage of moneys
15 from all sources used for the skilled worker and business
16 development center.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
19 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and
20 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
21 year 2012-2013 to assist in the establishment and start-up of
22 the skilled worker and business development center and the



1 development of its skills-based program, including curriculum
 2 design and counseling services; provided, however, that
 3 § shall be provided to each community college of the
 4 University of Hawaii system to implement skills-based programs
 5 deemed appropriate by each community college consistent with the
 6 skilled worker and business development center.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
 8 of Hawaii.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

10

INTRODUCED BY:

Jill
Michelle Sidani
Clarence K. Kishibe
D. D. J. J.
Anna Mercedes K.
Carol Fukunaga
Fazanne Chun Oshiro



Report Title:

Workforce Development; University of Hawaii; Community Colleges; Appropriation

Description:

Enhances the workforce development capacity of Hawaii's community colleges by establishing a skilled worker and business development center to provide workforce training to meet the rapidly evolving needs of both employers and employees. Makes appropriation.

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

