
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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 within the public
3 school system. Research indicates that teacher quality is one
4 of the most influential factors in student achievement.
5 In an effort to provide quality education for its students, the
6 department of education continues to recruit highly qualified
7 teachers from within the State of Hawaii and the continental
8 United States. However, as more baby-boomer teachers in Hawaii
9 and across the nation retire, the task of recruiting highly
10 qualified teachers becomes more challenging each year. Hard-to-
11 staff schools and hard-to-staff positions continue to be
12 impacted to a greater degree by the teacher shortage.

13 The legislature further finds that other jurisdictions,
14 such as Illinois, have been successful in establishing grow your
15 own teacher education initiatives to address teacher shortages
16 by working with community-based consortia and state-approved
17 teacher education programs to identify, train, and employ
18 qualified teachers.



1 The purpose of this measure is to establish the Hawaii grow
2 your own teacher program to train highly skilled, committed
3 teachers who will teach in hard-to-staff schools and
4 hard-to-staff teaching positions in their communities, and who
5 will remain in these schools and positions for substantial
6 periods of time. Specifically, the Hawaii grow your own teacher
7 program shall effectively recruit and prepare parents, community
8 leaders, and paraeducators to become effective teachers in hard-
9 to-staff schools and hard-to-staff teaching positions.

10 SECTION 2. (a) As used in this Act, the following terms
11 have the following meanings unless the context indicates
12 otherwise:

13 "Accredited teacher preparation program" means a
14 state-approved teacher education program authorized to prepare
15 individuals to fulfill all of the requirements to receive a
16 license to teach in the State.

17 "Board" means the board of education.

18 "Consortium" means a non-profit organization that has
19 entered into a formal agreement with a state-approved teacher
20 education program to identify, train, and prepare teachers to
21 teach in hard-to-staff schools or in hard-to-staff teaching
22 positions.



1 "Department" means the department of education.

2 "Hard-to-staff school" means a public elementary, middle,
3 intermediate, or secondary school in the State in which, based
4 on data compiled by the board or the department, per cent
5 or more of its students receive free or reduced-priced school
6 lunches.

7 "Hard-to-staff teaching position" means a teaching
8 position, including but not limited to special education,
9 English as a second language, mathematics, or science positions,
10 in which statewide data compiled by the board or department
11 indicates a multi-year pattern of substantial teacher shortage
12 or that has been identified as a critical need by the board or
13 department.

14 "Paraeducator" means an individual with a history of
15 demonstrated accomplishments in school staff positions,
16 including educational assistants, school-community liaisons,
17 school clerks, and security aides, in schools that meet the
18 definition of a hard-to-staff school under this Act.

19 "Parent and community leader" means an individual who has
20 or had a child enrolled in a school or schools that meet the
21 definition of a hard-to-staff school under this Act and who has
22 a history of active involvement in the school or who has a



1 history of working to improve schools serving a substantial
2 percentage of low-income students.

3 "Participant" means a student participant who is working to
4 complete an accredited teacher preparation program and achieve
5 licensing through the Hawaii grow your own teacher program.

6 "Program" means the Hawaii grow your own teacher program
7 established under this Act.

8 (b) There is established the Hawaii grow your own teacher
9 program. The department shall allocate funds by means of a
10 competitive grant, subject to the availability of funds, to a
11 consortium that will identify and train paraeducators and other
12 qualified parent and community leaders to become fully licensed
13 teachers.

14 (c) The board shall develop specific criteria to apply in
15 the review and selection of the consortium; provided that at a
16 minimum the board shall require a grant application that:

17 (1) Includes a commitment, either through a memorandum of
18 agreement or other means, of at least one accredited
19 teacher preparation program;

20 (2) Identifies the hard-to-staff school or schools with
21 hard-to-fill positions that will serve as the
22 consortium's primary focus under the program;



- 1 (3) Articulates the steps that the consortium shall take
2 in preparing participants to teach in its target hard-
3 to-staff schools and in hard-to-staff teacher
4 positions;
- 5 (4) Identifies the consortium's plans for recruiting and
6 providing support to participants of the program,
7 including information that demonstrates that potential
8 participants are paraeducators or parent and community
9 leaders, as defined in subsection (a);
- 10 (5) Identifies the categories of allowable expenditures
11 and requires the submission of a budget summary and
12 payment schedule, on the forms provided by the board,
13 as well as a narrative budget breakdown that provides
14 a detailed explanation of each line item of
15 expenditure and covers the entire period of time
16 during which a participant is expected to be enrolled
17 in the program;
- 18 (6) Identifies the level of performance that must be
19 maintained by participants as a condition of
20 continuing in the program;
- 21 (7) Contains a plan to provide forgivable loans to
22 participants to cover any portion of tuition and



1 direct expenses in excess of grants-in-aid and other
2 forgivable loans received; provided that the program
3 loans shall be fully forgiven only if a participant
4 completes five years of service at a hard-to-staff
5 school or in a hard-to-staff teaching position; and
6 (8) Contains a plan for reduced reliance on legislative
7 appropriations to fund the operation of the program in
8 the future.
9 (d) The board shall determine what percentage of grant
10 funds awarded may be used by the consortium for administrative
11 expenses.
12 (e) The board may adopt administrative rules pursuant to
13 chapter 91 to carry out the purposes of this Act.
14 (f) The program may be funded by legislative
15 appropriation, moneys received from the counties or federal
16 government, and private contributions.
17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 for the
20 Hawaii grow your own teacher program; provided that funds
21 appropriated for the Hawaii grow your own teacher program shall



H.B. NO. 1931

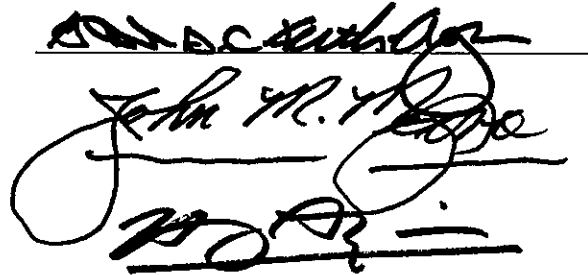
1 not supplant other funds appropriated to the department of
2 education.

3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
4 education for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.

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INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 17 2012



H.B. NO. 1931

Report Title:

Education; Hawaii Grow Your Own Teacher Program; Appropriation

Description:

Creates the Hawaii grow your own teacher program. Appropriates funds.

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