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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PERSONS WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL  
DISABILITIES.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that persons with  
2 intellectual and developmental disabilities need continuing  
3 education, evaluation, and services to obtain necessary  
4 employment skills. Current research indicates that many persons  
5 with intellectual and developmental disabilities are able to  
6 achieve an employment skill level that enables them to become  
7 self-sufficient, taxpaying contributors to the economy.

8           For example, the State of Washington has a state policy  
9 that encourages all persons with intellectual and developmental  
10 disabilities to find paid employment no matter how profound  
11 their disabilities. Accordingly, the Washington Department of  
12 Social and Health Services adopted a policy that all the  
13 activities it funded for working adults with intellectual and  
14 developmental disabilities under age sixty-two would be related  
15 to finding and keeping jobs.



1 An internet article on November 15, 2009 on HRhero.com  
2 entitled, "Employing Developmentally Disabled Can Be a Win-Win",  
3 stated in pertinent part:

4 "Individuals with serious disabilities encounter many  
5 difficulties when attempting to enter the workforce.  
6 They may have physical or mental deficiencies that  
7 make it difficult, if not impossible, to become  
8 competitively employed."

9 The State Employment Leadership Network, a joint program of  
10 the National Association of State Directors of Developmental  
11 Disabilities Services and the Institute for Community Inclusion  
12 at the University of Massachusetts Boston launched in 2006, has  
13 a membership of eighteen states, including Hawaii. The State  
14 Employment Leadership Network is a cross-state cooperative  
15 venture of the state agencies that serve persons with  
16 intellectual and developmental disabilities and are committed to  
17 improving employment outcomes for adolescents and adults with  
18 intellectual and developmental disabilities. The State  
19 Employment Leadership Network connects, collaborates, and  
20 creates cross-community support for the pressing  
21 employment-related issues faced by state systems and at the  
22 federal level.



1 Presently, programs for training and education of persons  
2 with intellectual and developmental disabilities are  
3 administrative initiatives. However, the legislature finds that  
4 funding for these initiatives could be augmented by federal  
5 funding as part of a medicaid waiver, if the program is placed  
6 in statute.

7 The purpose of this Act is to enact an employment training  
8 and placement program to develop more effective employment  
9 systems for persons with intellectual and developmental  
10 disabilities, and to require the department of human services to  
11 seek a medicaid waiver for funding of the program.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 333E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14 and to read as follows:

15 "§333E- Employment training and placement. (a) There  
16 is established an employment training and placement program for  
17 persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities to be  
18 administered by the department of human services, in cooperation  
19 with the department of education and the department of health.  
20 The program's target population shall be working adults with  
21 intellectual and developmental disabilities between the ages of  
22 sixteen and sixty-five; provided that priority shall be given to



1 youth in transition with intellectual and developmental  
2 disabilities between the ages of sixteen and twenty-two. The  
3 purpose of the program shall be to provide services to assist  
4 persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in  
5 finding and keeping employment and to allow adults with  
6 intellectual and developmental disabilities to live outside of  
7 institutionalized care that would otherwise be funded by  
8 medicaid.

9 (b) Services under subsection (a) shall consist of support  
10 to individuals to maintain gainful employment. Key elements of  
11 these services include:

- 12 (1) Supports tailored to the needs, interests, and  
13 abilities of the individual;  
14 (2) Supports to achieve and maintain integrated, gainful  
15 employment in the community;  
16 (3) Skills assessments and job placement services; and  
17 (4) Job development and coaching.

18 (c) For purposes of this section, the department of human  
19 services may use private service providers to furnish services.

20 (d) The department of human services shall seek a medicaid  
21 waiver to provide funding for services under this section. The  
22 employment training and placement program for persons with



1 intellectual and developmental disabilities shall be deemed a  
2 part of home- and community-based services waivers and targeted  
3 case management programs for special population groups,  
4 including services relating to the needs of special populations  
5 such as the elderly, individuals with mental illness, and  
6 individuals with physical and mental disabilities."

7 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 and the  
10 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
11 2012-2013 for the employment training and placement program as  
12 matching state funding to federal funds received pursuant to a  
13 medicaid waiver for the employment training and placement  
14 program.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
16 of human services for the purposes of this Act.

17 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

18 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

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**Report Title:**

Developmental Disability; Job Training; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes an employment and training program for intellectually and developmentally disabled persons using medicaid waiver funds; program to be administered by the department of human services, in cooperation with the department of education and the department of health. Makes an appropriation. (SD1)

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

