

JAN 20 2012

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# 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



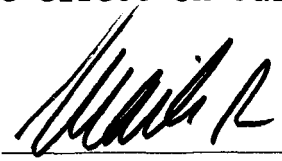

1 not supplant other funds appropriated to the department of  
2 education.

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:

  
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**Report Title:**

Education; Hawaii Grow Your Own Teacher Program; Appropriation

**Description:**

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

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

