

JAN 17 2014

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 **"CHAPTER**

5 **DOVE PROGRAM**

6 § -1 **Short title of chapter.** This chapter shall be
7 known and may be cited as the developing opportunities in
8 veterans' education program ("dove").

9 § -2 **Definitions.** As in this chapter the following
10 words and phrases have the following meanings unless the context
11 clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Active military service" means active service in any of
13 the armed services or forces of the United States or of the
14 State.

15 "Advisory council" means the statewide dove advisory
16 council established under section -5.

17 "Community college" means an institution established and
18 operated under section 304A-1101.



1 "Dove" means the developing opportunities in veterans'
2 education program.

3 "Private education institution" means an institution within
4 the State that is legally authorized to grant degrees or career
5 and technical certifications but that is not statutorily
6 established as an instrumentality of the State or a state-
7 related institution or community college.

8 "State higher education public institution" means a state
9 system institution, a state-related institution, or a community
10 college located within the State.

11 "State-related institution" means a non-profit institution
12 that:

- 13 (1) Is legally authorized to grant degrees;
14 (2) Offers needed, specified higher education services in
15 the public interest of the State;
16 (3) Is statutorily established as an instrumentality of
17 the State; and
18 (4) Receives a direct annual state appropriation.

19 "State system institution" means a University of Hawaii
20 system university or community college governed under chapter
21 304A.



1 "Student veteran" means any person who is attending or
2 planning to attend a state higher education public institution
3 or private education institution and is serving in the United
4 States armed forces, including a reserve component or national
5 guard, or served in the United States armed forces, and who was
6 discharged or released from service under conditions other than
7 dishonorable.

8 § -3 **Student veterans program.** Each campus of a state
9 higher education public institution with an annual combined
10 enrollment of at least one hundred full-time or part-time
11 student veterans shall provide the services and create a
12 position of coordinator as described in section -4 to assist
13 student veterans in transitioning from combat-to-college and
14 thereby create a positive educational environment under which
15 student veterans may successfully graduate from universities and
16 vocational degree programs in recognition of the skills,
17 training, and experience associated with military training.

18 § -4 **Requirements.** Each state higher education public
19 institution shall do the following:

20 (1) For a campus that is not solely online and has a
21 combined annual enrollment of at least one hundred
22 full-time or part-time student veterans, provide a



- 1 centralized geographic location on campus for student
2 veterans for admissions, class registration, and
3 financial aid administration and create the position
4 of coordinator under subsection (b) to the extent that
5 funds are available;
- 6 (2) Provide outreach, information, and advocacy assistance
7 to student veterans to help ensure that they receive
8 reasonable accommodations for any disability, pursuant
9 to the laws of the State and of the United States;
- 10 (3) Develop programs to provide academic and career
11 counseling specifically for student veterans that
12 shall include peer mentoring and peer support
13 programs;
- 14 (4) Develop programs to provide reasonable access to
15 specialized mental health counseling services or
16 resources for student veterans;
- 17 (5) Develop job search assistance programs designed for
18 student veterans during their enrollment and for a
19 period of at least two years following their
20 graduation;



- 1 (6) Not charge an admissions or similar fee for student
2 veterans returning to the same educational institution
3 that they attended prior to mobilization;
- 4 (7) Provide specific information on programs developed or
5 coordinated pursuant to this chapter, and other
6 information relevant to veterans, on the institution's
7 website;
- 8 (8) Provide post-secondary credit to student veterans for
9 military training while serving in the armed forces or
10 national guard if the American Council on Education
11 recommends that post-secondary credit should be
12 provided for military training or provide preadmission
13 counseling to provide prospective student veterans
14 with detailed analyses of which post-secondary credits
15 will be accepted based upon the student veterans'
16 military training;
- 17 (9) Provide student veterans an alternative status that
18 reflects mobilization rather than a "W" or withdrawn
19 status on the student veteran's transcripts at the
20 student veteran's request if the student veteran is
21 called to active military service and is no longer



1 able to attend class or complete course work as a
2 direct result of the call; and

3 (10) Provide for community-based collaborations to allow
4 the private sector to support dove programs through
5 financial and in-kind gifts.

6 (b) Each state higher education public institution with an
7 annual combined enrollment of one hundred or more full-time or
8 part-time student veterans shall designate a coordinator for
9 each campus who shall do as follows:

10 (1) Develop programs to promote a positive educational
11 environment for student veterans;

12 (2) Implement staff training programs that relate to
13 identifying and assisting student veterans who may
14 benefit from the specialized services and resources
15 developed or coordinated pursuant to this chapter;

16 (3) Make recommendations to the institution's
17 administration and the advisory committee concerning
18 ways to improve the education of student veterans;

19 (4) Coordinate access to stress management, counseling
20 programs, and other available resources;



- 1 (5) Coordinate with the office of veterans' services
2 established under section 363-2 to educate student
3 veterans about available state programs;
- 4 (6) Coordinate with the United States Department of
5 Veterans Affairs to educate student veterans about
6 available federal benefits, including any work-study
7 programs offered by the United States Department of
8 Veterans Affairs;
- 9 (7) Coordinate activities, seminars, and programs for
10 student veterans presented by veteran's organizations;
- 11 (8) Coordinate campus activities and social events
12 designed for student veterans; and
- 13 (9) Coordinate programs to assist student veterans in
14 locating employment and internships.

15 § -5 **Statewide dove advisory council.** (a) A statewide
16 dove advisory council is established that shall consist of the
17 following nine members who shall each serve two-year terms
18 unless serving in an ex-officio capacity:

- 19 (1) One member appointed by the governor from the office
20 of veterans' services established under section 363-2;

- 1 (2) Two members appointed by the president of the
- 2 University of Hawaii to represent the universities and
- 3 community colleges;
- 4 (3) The adjutant general or a designee;
- 5 (4) Three members appointed by the governor who are
- 6 student veterans or former student veteran
- 7 representatives; and
- 8 (5) Two members at-large appointed by the governor.
- 9 (b) Any vacancy on the advisory council shall be filled by
- 10 the original appointing officer.
- 11 (c) The duties of the advisory council shall be as
- 12 follows:
- 13 (1) Assess, refine, and recommend improvements for
- 14 outreach services to provide veterans with necessary
- 15 information regarding post-secondary opportunities and
- 16 develop best practices to help them graduate from
- 17 Hawaii's post-secondary education institutions;
- 18 (2) Review and approve annual applications from state
- 19 higher public education institutions to receive the
- 20 "serving our veterans certified" title for
- 21 demonstrating compliance with section -4;

- 1 (3) Review and approve annual applications from private
2 education institutions to receive the "serving our
3 veterans certified" title for voluntary compliance
4 with section -4;
- 5 (4) Promote partnerships with the United States Department
6 of Veterans Affairs that help reduce out-of-pocket
7 expenses to student veterans;
- 8 (5) Assess gaps in student support and policy that may
9 exist at the federal level, including the GI Bill and
10 the Pell Grant program, and recommend changes in the
11 federal and state higher education financial
12 assistance programs to promote unfettered access to
13 post-secondary education opportunities;
- 14 (6) Provide ways to easily report accurate data on the use
15 and results of the programs authorized by this
16 chapter;
- 17 (7) Promote partnerships to provide financial resources to
18 help enable state higher education public institutions
19 and private education institutions meet the standards
20 authorized in this chapter;
- 21 (8) Receive comments and testimony from student veterans
22 and others; and



1 (9) Annually report to the legislature on the use and
2 results of the programs described in this chapter.

3 § -6 Private education institutions. A private
4 education institution shall be awarded an annual "serving our
5 veterans certified" status by the advisory council if the
6 private education institution voluntarily complies with state
7 standards for student veterans programs as described in section
8 -4.

9 § -7 Reporting provisions. Not later than October 1,
10 2015, each state higher education public institution and every
11 private education institution that is certified as "serving our
12 veterans" shall annually report to the office of veterans'
13 services established under section 363-2 and to the advisory
14 council on whether they offer the services described in section
15 -4 and on the use and results of the services authorized
16 under this chapter."

17 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014;
18 provided that sections -3 and -4 shall take effect on July
19 1, 2015.

20 INTRODUCED BY: Will Egero

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DC Sub-Clerk



Report Title:

Military Affairs; Higher Education; DOVE Program; Established

Description:

Establishes the developing opportunities in veterans education (DOVE) program, which is a student veterans program in state higher education public institutions to assist student veterans in transitioning from combat-to-college. Defines "state higher education public institutions."

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

