
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the community
2 colleges play a vital role in meeting the employment needs of
3 the State. A well-trained and highly qualified work force would
4 also attract additional employers to Hawaii and diversify the
5 local economy. In addition, the countless benefits of higher
6 education include the potential for higher earnings by workers
7 and higher tax, health-care-insurance, and retirement-pension
8 contributions by workers.

9 The legislature also finds that a student's access to
10 higher education should not be impeded by financial concerns.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, part IV, subpart A, subdivision
12 1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section
13 to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

14 "§304A- Community college tuition waiver. (a) The
15 board of regents shall waive the tuition of any person who
16 applies for a tuition waiver under this section, provided that
17 the following conditions are met:



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- 1 (1) The person is a United States citizen or an eligible
- 2 non-citizen;
- 3 (2) The person has been a resident of the State for at
- 4 least twelve months prior to the time of applying for
- 5 the waiver, and has qualified for resident tuition;
- 6 (3) The person is a graduate of a private or public high
- 7 school located in the State;
- 8 (4) The person is admitted to and enrolled full-time in a
- 9 community college of the University of Hawaii;
- 10 (5) The person maintains satisfactory academic progress,
- 11 as determined by the community college in which the
- 12 person is enrolled;
- 13 (6) The person maintains continuous full-time enrollment
- 14 at a community college of the University of Hawaii,
- 15 except for periods of medical or personal leave of
- 16 absence, as approved by the community college that the
- 17 person attends;
- 18 (7) The person is physically present in the State; and
- 19 (8) The person is under the age of twenty-six.
- 20 (b) As used in this subsection, an "eligible non-citizen"
- 21 means a person who is:



- 1 (1) A United States permanent resident who holds a
- 2 permanent resident card;
- 3 (2) A conditional permanent resident of the United States;
- 4 or
- 5 (3) The holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from
- 6 the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of
- 7 the following designations:
- 8 (A) Refugee;
- 9 (B) Asylum granted;
- 10 (C) Parolee; or
- 11 (D) Cuban-Haitian Entrant."

12 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general

13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$20,000,000 or so

14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and

15 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal

16 year 2018-2019 to pay for tuition waivers for qualifying

17 community college students; provided that any portion of the

18 sums appropriated that have not been expended by June 30, 2018,

19 and June 30, 2019, respectively, shall not lapse and shall be

20 used for tuition waivers for students in the University of

21 Hawaii system who:



1 (1) Are not students at community colleges; and
2 (2) Otherwise meet the conditions in section 304A- ,
3 Hawaii Revised Statutes, of section 2 of this Act;
4 provided further that any remaining unencumbered balance on June
5 30, 2020, shall lapse to the credit of the general fund.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the University
7 of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

10

INTRODUCED BY: _____



JAN 23 2017



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Report Title:

Community Colleges; Tuition Waiver; Appropriation

Description:

Grants tuition waivers to students at the community colleges who meet certain criteria. Allows unexpended funds to carryover to fiscal years 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 to fund tuition waivers in the University of Hawaii System.

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