

JAN 17 2020

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOLS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that current high
2 school graduates, as well as non-graduates would benefit from
3 aligning educational curriculum to a workforce readiness
4 preparation program. This alignment depends upon close
5 collaboration between the department of education adult
6 community schools and high schools, community colleges,
7 workforce development council, and employers. A workforce
8 readiness program would ensure that students learn skills and
9 earn credentials required for employment by industry after
10 graduation or completion of the community school for adults
11 workforce preparation program.

12 The legislature further finds that collaboration between
13 educators and industry employers will enable students to earn
14 a community school for adults workforce development diploma
15 credential. Students may also earn pre-apprenticeship
16 certificates and other certificates recognized by industry,
17 in addition to an associate degree.



1 The purpose of this Act is to establish a workforce
2 readiness program within the department of education adult
3 community schools program.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
6 and to read as follows:

7 "§302A- Workforce readiness program; establishment.

8 (a) There is established a workforce readiness program
9 within the department's adult community schools program.

10 (b) The department shall designate schools, including
11 adult community schools, to participate in the program.

12 (c) Schools participating in the workforce readiness
13 program shall provide opportunities for students to earn a
14 workforce development diploma, pre-apprenticeship certificate,
15 and other certificates recognized by industry that assess and
16 document student readiness for a wide range of jobs, in
17 addition to an associate degree.

18 (d) The department may coordinate with the department of
19 labor and industrial relations and the department of human
20 services division of vocational rehabilitation and enter into



1 contracts with industry employers to develop and implement the
2 workforce readiness program.

3 (e) The department may adopt rules pursuant to chapter
4 91 to effectuate the purposes of this section."

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to enable
8 the two existing department of education adult community
9 schools to implement the workforce development program in
10 collaboration with the department of labor and industrial
11 relations and the department of human services division of
12 vocational rehabilitation, workforce development council,
13 american job centers, local businesses, hotels, employers,
14 apprenticeship programs, and community colleges in meeting
15 the demands for a career-ready workforce.

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

18 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

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1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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S.B. NO. 2259

Report Title:

Department of Education; Adult Education; Workforce Development
Diploma; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes a workforce readiness diploma program within the
department of education adult community schools 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.*

