
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 the State's future
2 depends on further development of the agricultural sector for
3 its security, economic development, and sustainability. In the
4 most recent Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy plans,
5 the State and all four counties identified agriculture as
6 targeted industry clusters for regional economic development. A
7 qualified workforce to support agriculture, food innovation,
8 natural resources, and related employment is necessary to
9 advance the State's goals.

10 The Legislature further finds that career pathways map out
11 the education, training, and experiences necessary to prepare
12 young people for employment and career success. When career
13 pathways are well-executed, young people are prepared to meet
14 the needs of the State's high-skill, high-wage, in-demand, and
15 future-focused workforce.

16 The legislature additionally finds that there is a critical
17 need for an implementation plan for career pathways for the



1 agricultural sector that prepares more of the State's young
2 people to be Hawaii's future agricultural workforce, which
3 includes scientists, inspectors, food producers, field
4 technicians, natural resource managers, entrepreneurs, and of
5 course, farmers.

6 The purpose of this Act is to establish a working group to
7 study and develop an implementation plan for career pathways in
8 the agricultural sector.

9 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a working group to
10 study and prepare an implementation plan for agricultural career
11 pathways. The working group shall be attached to the University
12 of Hawaii for administrative and fiscal purposes. The working
13 group shall comprise members selected by the University of
14 Hawaii in consultation with the department of education.

15 (b) The working group shall study and prepare an
16 implementation plan for career pathways from high school to
17 postsecondary education and training that prepares young people
18 for employment in the agricultural sector and to meet present
19 and future workforce needs. In preparing the implementation
20 plan for career pathways, the working group shall consider:



- 1 (1) Current and projected workforce needs identified in
- 2 labor market data by employers and in economic
- 3 development plans;
- 4 (2) The role of high school career academies and industry-
- 5 valued certificates, such as those identified in the
- 6 Promising Credentials in Hawaii report issued by the
- 7 Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, Kamehameha Schools, and
- 8 Hawaii P-20 partnerships for education;
- 9 (3) The Coordinated Framework of Support for Preschool
- 10 Through Post-Secondary Agriculture Education in Hawaii
- 11 report prepared in response to the Senate Resolution
- 12 No. 80 (2015) and the Hawaii agriculture workforce
- 13 advisory board established under section 371-19,
- 14 Hawaii Revised Statutes; and
- 15 (4) Including specific models for secondary and
- 16 postsecondary education and training that identify the
- 17 relationship between the education, training, and
- 18 employment opportunities; provided that where entry-
- 19 level employment opportunities do not compensate
- 20 employees at a living wage, then the model should



1 indicate the opportunities to advance in the career
2 pathway toward a living wage.

3 (c) The working group shall submit to the legislature an
4 analysis of agricultural workforce needs no later than twenty
5 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023.

6 (d) The working group shall submit to the legislature an
7 implementation plan, including recommendations and any proposed
8 legislation, for career pathways from high school to
9 postsecondary education and training for in-demand or projected
10 needs for the agricultural sector in Hawaii no later than twenty
11 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2024.

12 (e) The working group shall be dissolved on June 1, 2024.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for
16 the establishment and operation of the working group established
17 under section 2 of this Act.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
19 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
2 provided that section 3 of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
3 2022.



Report Title:

Education; Working Group; Agriculture; Career Pathways; Report

Description:

Establishes a working group to study and prepare an implementation plan for agricultural career pathways and report to the legislature. Appropriates an unspecified amount of funds. (Proposed SD1)

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