



GOV. MSG. NO. 1278

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

July 2, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 2, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2943 SD2 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.
ACT 177

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on JUL 2 2024

THE SENATE
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 2943
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii is the most
 2 isolated population center in the world, situated approximately
 3 two thousand four hundred miles from the closest landmass, the
 4 mainland United States. Given this geographical isolation,
 5 efficient transportation is critical for the survival of the
 6 State's population and tourism industry. Commercial driver's
 7 license holders play a pivotal role in moving shipments from
 8 docks and airports to shelves, as storage space is limited
 9 within the State.

10 The legislature further finds that Hawaii grapples with a
 11 shortage of commercial drivers, a challenge mirrored on the
 12 continental United States. The nationwide deficit of truck
 13 drivers is more than eighty thousand. If current trends
 14 persist, the deficit is projected to double to one hundred sixty
 15 thousand by 2030.

16 The legislature also finds that this scarcity in the number
 17 of commercial drivers directly impacts the State's education
 18 system, for which more than two hundred additional commercial



1 drivers are required to fully cover school bus routes statewide,
2 forcing some students to ride public transit. To address this
3 growing crisis, it is imperative to develop and implement a
4 strategic plan that encourages employment in the commercial
5 driver's field to ensure the State's economic and social
6 well-being.

7 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to create a working
8 group within the department of transportation to address the
9 State's current and future needs for commercial driver's license
10 holders.

11 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a commercial drivers
12 workforce working group within the department of transportation.
13 The working group shall:

- 14 (1) Engage the public and private sectors to increase
15 awareness of the ground transportation industry and
16 the industry's workforce needs; and
- 17 (2) Collaborate with key stakeholders to identify and
18 develop possible career paths for qualified commercial
19 drivers, prioritizing filling vacancies within the
20 department of education, with the ultimate goal of



1 filling vacancies within the private and public
2 sectors.

3 (b) The working group shall consist of the following
4 members:

5 (1) The director of transportation, or the director's
6 designee, who shall serve as the co-chair of the
7 working group;

8 (2) One member from the department of education workforce
9 development branch, who shall serve as the co-chair of
10 the working group;

11 (3) A campus coordinator from the office of workforce
12 development at the university of Hawaii community
13 colleges who is in charge of a workforce development
14 program that includes commercial driver's license
15 training;

16 (4) One member from the department of labor and industrial
17 relations workforce development council;

18 (5) One member from each county's commercial driver's
19 licensing office; and

20 (6) One member from each county's workforce development
21 board.



1 (c) The director of transportation shall invite
2 representatives from the following organizations to serve as
3 members of the working group:

4 (1) Two members representing the Hawaii Transportation
5 Association;

6 (2) One member representing the labor union representing
7 commercial driver's license holders; and

8 (3) One member representing a local non-profit
9 organization currently providing commercial driver's
10 license training.

11 (d) The working group shall submit a report of its
12 findings and recommendations to address the shortage of
13 commercial drivers in the State, including any proposed
14 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
15 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

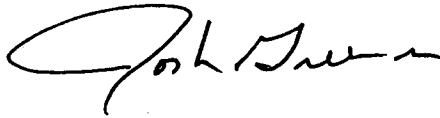
16 (e) The working group shall cease to exist on June 30,
17 2025.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



S.B. NO. 2943
S.D. 2
H.D. 1
C.D. 1

APPROVED this **2nd** day of **July**, 2024

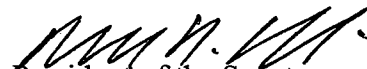
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green", is written in a cursive style.


GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 2943, SD 2, HD 1, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives