
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 students should have
2 an opportunity to participate in a high-quality work-based
3 learning experience before they graduate from high school.
4 While partnerships between schools and employers have expanded
5 in the past decade, the legislature also finds that equitable
6 access to a diverse range of industries will require
7 significantly greater employer participation in these programs.
8 The legislature further finds that to drastically increase
9 work-based learning experience opportunities, offering
10 additional resources for employers will incentivize companies to
11 offer work-based learning opportunities and increase capacity to
12 host student interns. Without crucial assistance to support
13 work-based learning experiences, many employers, especially
14 small- to medium-sized companies, may lack the resources
15 necessary to hire and retain student interns and youth will be
16 unable to gain invaluable work experience before entering the
17 workforce.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a
2 qualified internship grant program, to be administered by an
3 eligible and qualified non-profit organization in partnership
4 with the department of education.

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

8 "§302A- Qualified internship program; administration;
9 requirements. (a) There is established within the department a
10 qualified internship grant program. The qualified internship
11 grant program shall provide grants to businesses and
12 organizations providing qualified interns with work-based
13 learning experiences through a qualified internship program.

14 (b) The qualified internship grant program shall be
15 administered by an eligible and qualified non-profit
16 organization selected by the department through a competitive
17 bid process and in compliance with chapter 103D. The eligible
18 and qualified non-profit organization shall:

19 (1) Verify that internship applicants have provided the
20 following information:



- 1 (A) A description of the daily tasks to be completed
2 by the qualified intern;
- 3 (B) Expected student learning outcomes to be achieved
4 by the completion of the internship period; and
- 5 (C) Confirmation that the internship has been
6 approved as part of a department approved work-
7 based learning program; and
- 8 (2) Report the following to the department at the
9 conclusion of the internship:
- 10 (A) Confirmation that each qualified intern was
11 employed and supervised in the State in a
12 position in which the qualified intern received
13 training and experience in the intern's chosen
14 field of study;
- 15 (B) Total wages paid to each qualified intern and
16 each qualified intern's hourly wage rate; and
- 17 (C) Total number of hours worked by each qualified
18 intern.
- 19 (c) The department shall report to the legislature no
20 later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular
21 session. The report shall include:



- 1 (1) The total value of qualified internship grants
2 provided in the previous calendar year;
- 3 (2) The total number of qualified interns who participated
4 in the program in the previous calendar year;
- 5 (3) Information on the department's process in
6 administering the qualified internship grant program;
7 and
- 8 (4) An analysis of the effectiveness of the qualified
9 internship grant program as an incentive to encourage
10 employment of qualified interns.
- 11 (d) For the purposes of this section:
- 12 "Eligible and qualified non-profit organization" means an
13 organization that is registered with the State and has been
14 certified by the Internal Revenue Service as a charitable or
15 otherwise tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the
16 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.
- 17 "Internship applicant" means a business or employer who
18 applies to participate in the qualified internship grant
19 program.
- 20 "Qualified intern" means an individual enrolled in a public
21 school.



1 "Qualified internship program" means a highly structured,
 2 time-limited professional internship program with a workplace
 3 mentor that provides a qualified intern the opportunity to apply
 4 technical and employability skills in an authentic workplace
 5 environment that:

6 (1) Compensates the qualified intern no less than \$12 per
 7 hour;

8 (2) Schedules the qualified intern to work for no more
 9 than fifteen hours per week during the academic year
 10 and no more than forty hours per week during winter,
 11 spring, and summer holiday periods; and

12 (3) Employs the qualified intern for no more than one
 13 hundred and fifty hours."

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for
 17 the establishment and implementation of the qualified internship
 18 grant program.

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



H.B. NO. 1654

1 SECTION 4. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
2 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
3 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
4 appropriations contained in H.B. No. , will cause the state
5 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be
6 exceeded by \$ or per cent. In addition, the
7 appropriation contained in this Act will cause the general fund
8 expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be further
9 exceeded by \$ or per cent. The combined total
10 amount of general fund appropriations contained in only these
11 two Acts will cause the state general fund expenditure ceiling
12 for fiscal year 2024-2025 to be exceeded by
13 \$ or per cent. The reasons for exceeding the
14 general fund expenditure ceiling are that:

- 15 (1) The appropriation made in this Act is necessary to
- 16 serve the public interest; and
- 17 (2) The appropriation made in this Act meets the needs
- 18 addressed by this Act.

19 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

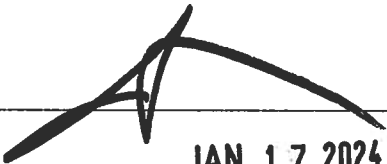
20 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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H.B. NO. 1654

INTRODUCED BY:


JAN 17 2024



H.B. NO. 1654

Report Title:

Qualified Internship Grant Program; Work-Based Learning;
Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Establishes the qualified internship grant program within the Department of Education to provide grants to businesses and organizations that employ qualified interns participating in work-based learning through a qualified internship 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.

