

JAN 15 2025

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REIMBURSEMENT OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 78-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "~~[+]§78-32[+]~~ **Payment of approved travel costs for public**
4 **officers and employees.** (a) This section shall apply to all
5 approved travel costs incurred by an officer or employee of the
6 State or a county in connection with the official business of
7 the respective jurisdiction.

8 (b) Subject to subsection (d), the State and the counties
9 may pay approved travel costs directly to:

10 (1) The vendor providing the goods or services involved;

11 ~~[or]~~

12 (2) The officer or employee for whom the approved travel
13 costs are to be paid, by way of a cash advance ~~[prior~~
14 ~~to]~~ before the date of purchase~~[, unless the officer~~
15 ~~or employee affirmatively agrees to loan the State or~~
16 ~~a county the money for the travel costs and be~~



1 ~~reimbursed after the officer or employee pays for the~~
2 ~~travel costs.]; or~~

3 (3) The officer or employee when the officer or employee
4 affirmatively agrees to loan the State or a county the
5 money for the travel costs and be reimbursed after the
6 officer or employee pays for the travel costs.

7 (c) This section shall not be construed as precluding the
8 reimbursement of approved travel costs to an officer or employee
9 upon completion of travel for any costs that for any reason were
10 not paid by the State or the county, as applicable, in
11 accordance with subsection (b).

12 (d) As pertains to the officer or employee incurring
13 approved travel costs, whenever there is a conflict between a
14 collective bargaining agreement and this section, the terms of
15 the collective bargaining agreement shall prevail.

16 (e) For the purposes of this section, "approved travel
17 costs" means any determinable costs of travel for official state
18 or county business approved by the respective jurisdiction and
19 supported by a written invoice. The term includes the costs of
20 transportation to and from a destination point, between
21 destination points, or within a destination point; event



1 registration fees; per diem allowances; and any other necessary
2 costs related to the travel.

3 (f) An employer shall not take adverse employment actions
4 against an officer or employee who does not affirmatively agree
5 to loan the State or a county the money for the travel costs and
6 be reimbursed after the officer or employee pays for the travel
7 costs.

8 (g) Whenever an officer or employee affirmatively agrees
9 to loan the State or a county the money for travel costs
10 pursuant to subsection (b), the State or county shall reimburse
11 the officer or employee within thirty calendar days after the
12 officer or employee requests reimbursement for the travel costs;
13 provided that if the State or a county is unable to reimburse
14 the officer or employee within thirty calendar days, the State
15 or a county shall pay interest of _____ per cent of the total
16 amount owed to the officer or employee until the loan is fully
17 reimbursed. Interest shall be compounded every thirty days."

18 SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20



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

2

INTRODUCED BY: MAI



S.B. NO. 341

Report Title:

Reimbursement; Public Employees; Travel Costs; Interest Owed

Description:

Requires the State or a county to reimburse an officer or employee within thirty calendar days of a request for reimbursement for travel costs that the officer or employee loaned to the State or a county. Requires the State or a county to pay a percentage of interest on the total amount owed to an officer or employee until the loan is fully reimbursed.

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