

A Bill for an Act Relating to the University of Hawaii.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Statement of Findings and Policy. Nationally and internationally, traditional higher education has begun to explore alternative means of providing educational programs for those heretofore unable to take advantage of existing fixed day schedules and programs for a variety of reasons. Higher education programs for these potential students on a continuing basis are being either developed or have been actually provided throughout the United States in increasing numbers with a number of different educational options. Great Britain, Japan, Australia, and other countries are also involved in establishing higher education programs and delivery systems which depart significantly from the traditional mode and designed to serve those unable to avail themselves of established schedules and programs.

In Hawaii, the Legislature recognizes that the State must increasingly provide opportunities for higher education to all qualified residents. This commitment has been honored through support of the University of Hawaii and the Community Colleges. The time has come, however, when provisions must be made for mature adults to initiate or continue their quest for higher education, including degrees, at times and places and in programs more suitable, appropriate, and convenient as compared to the existing programs for recent high school graduates.

The Legislature also finds that traditional means of evaluating academic performances may not be applicable to this developing new adult clientele.

Innovative but sound procedures must be developed, together with the new approach, to enable mature adults to apply for credit in the new programs throughout evaluation of their individual experiences and background.

SECTION 2. The University of Hawaii is hereby mandated to establish research and development capabilities for the program as described to be conducted by the University of Hawaii on a statewide basis with emphasis upon increasing educational and degree options for those unable to take advantage of existing university programs.

SECTION 3. The research and development phase is to be completed, and a comprehensive report of the findings be presented to the Legislature prior to February 1, 1973.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1972.

(Approved June 3, 1972.)