



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 02/05/2025

**Time:** 03:00 PM

**Location:** CR 229 & Videoconference

**Committee:** Senate Education  
Senate Labor and Technology

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Bill Title:** SB 0420 RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**Purpose of Bill:** Allows newly graduated high school students to be eligible for workers' compensation coverage during the summer following their high school graduation while participating in Department of Education-sponsored work-based learning programs.

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 420, which provides workers' compensation coverage for new high school graduates participating in Department-sponsored work-based learning programs through July 31 of the graduate's high school graduation year.

To assist new high school graduates as they transition to their post-secondary plans, the Department offers the new graduates various supports during the summer following their graduation, including college and career advising, training, and internships. Work-based learning opportunities, such as industry-led summer training and internships, are an extension of our new graduates' Career and Technical Education programs of study that enable them to further develop the skills needed to succeed in the workforce. Planning and preparation for these internships take place during the graduates' senior year. This bill would provide our new graduates the same coverage as our continuing students.

The Department appreciates the Legislature's support of our work-based learning initiatives and our goal for all students to be globally competitive and locally committed. Preparing our students for the current and emerging workforce here at home will not only address our workforce needs, but will also lead to a thriving Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

**SB-420**

Submitted on: 2/1/2025 10:37:39 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marissa Baptista	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha! As a voting constituent residing in the Salt Lake/Moanalua neighborhood (Wakai/Senate and Ichiyama/House), I am submitting my support for SB420.

Mahalo,

Marissa Elizabeth Ku'uipo Baptista

**SB-420**

Submitted on: 2/3/2025 9:25:50 AM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Erin Mendelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I support measures to help transition recent graduates into work life after high school. Too often, young adults lose their support networks upon graduation. Access to their college counselors, mental health counselors, and other caring adults diminishes. As a community, we need to provide greater avenues to ensure young adults successfully continue to pursue their goals. Yes, this bill seems to remove some of the barriers to internships, so I support this measure.

Thank you,

**SB-420**

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 2:42:18 PM

Testimony for EDU on 2/5/2025 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Pialoha Callahan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of bill SB420 and allowing newly graduated students the grace of one year after their graduation to be eligible for Workers Comp.