



## The Senate

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

Media Advisory  
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### **Senate Education Chair to Hold Weighted Student Formula Discussions with Principals Statewide**

Honolulu- Senate Education Committee Chair Jill Tokuda will meet with all of Hawaii's principals to receive feedback and comments about the way public schools are funded through the Weighted Student Formula (WSF). The meetings will take place in small talk story settings across the State, focused primarily on the WSF, but also other important issues principals would like to discuss.

**WHEN:** Summer and Fall of 2013

Beginning Thursday, July 11, 2013 with Kaimuki-McKinley-Roosevelt Complex Area

**WHERE:** Statewide site visits to all of the Complex Areas

In 2004, the Legislature passed Act 51, which created the WSF with the goal of empowering Principals to act as the educational leaders of their schools. As the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Act 51 approaches, the Senate Education Committee has been focusing on making sure that the significant reforms set forth in Act 51 have not only been put into place, but that the desired outcomes have been achieved.

“To simply pass legislation is not enough. It is always important that we go back and assess how the policies we create are being implemented and resulting in the desired changes in practice we were hoping to achieve.” stated Senator Jill Tokuda. “We must also not be afraid to make changes based upon the feedback we receive, and these talk story sessions will provide me with valuable insights from key stakeholders as to our current method for funding schools.”

As set forth in Senate Resolution 61 (2012), the Department of Education contracted with American Institutes for Research (AIR) for an evaluation of Hawaii's WSF which was completed and finalized in June 2013. As a part of the evaluation, key stakeholders, including principals, were interviewed and/or surveyed on their views on the WSF. These talk story meetings will provide principals the opportunity to comment on the WSF report's finding and recommendations and to add their own thoughts and opinions that may or may not have been included.

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