
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT THE WEIGHTED
STUDENT FORMULA UNDER ACT 51, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2004.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 51, Session Laws
2 of Hawaii 2004, established a committee on weights to develop,
3 and the authority of the board of education to adopt, a weighted
4 student formula. The weighted student formula is an allocation
5 methodology that assigns a base amount of funding for each
6 student, and additional funding for students exhibiting factors
7 require more resources. These weighted factors are factors that
8 influence a student's ability to learn, such as economic
9 disadvantage, lack of English language ability, and the need for
10 special education, as examples. The total funding for public
11 schools was set to remain the same. While the weighted student
12 formula would bring greater transparency to school funding and
13 equalize some inequities, implementing the formula means that
14 some schools would benefit from the formula, and others would
15 suffer a net loss in funding.

16 The legislature further finds that this situation could be
17 rectified by using unanticipated surplus funds to supplement



1 underfunded schools and so that no cuts need to be made in other
2 schools.

3 The purpose of this Act is to utilize the budget surplus to
4 provide sufficient funding for FY 2006-2207 so that no schools
5 will face budget cuts.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ _____, or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, for
9 the purpose of funding underfunded schools adversely impacted by
10 the weighted student formula.

11 SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
12 department of education for the purposes of this Act; provided
13 that the appropriation shall be divided in such a manner so that
14 each school facing cuts be funded so that each will receive no
15 less than the previous fiscal year.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.
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INTRODUCED BY:

Barbara Marmoto

JAN 11 2006



HB 1791

Report Title:

Appropriation; education

Description:

Appropriates funds to schools that have a decrease in funding as a result of the weighted student formula.

