

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EVALUATE VARIOUS  
ALTERNATIVE AIR COOLING METHODS SUCH AS FANS, HEAT  
REDUCTION, INSULATION, AND ENERGY-EFFICIENT INDIVIDUAL AIR  
CONDITIONING WALL UNITS, AS WELL AS AIR COOLING METHODS  
THAT USE RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES TO ENCOURAGE COMPLIANCE  
WITH "LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN"  
STANDARDS.

1           WHEREAS, students need to have the most conducive,  
2 comfortable learning environment to achieve the educational  
3 standards set for them; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that a physical learning  
6 environment free from unnecessary distractions from heat or  
7 outside noise is crucial to student learning; and  
8

9           WHEREAS, given Hawaii's tropical environment and heat and  
10 rising temperatures across the globe, many classrooms need to be  
11 equipped with air conditioning or alternative air cooling  
12 methods; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, despite a tremendous backlog of repair and  
15 maintenance items and the need for new schools and facilities,  
16 it is important to include air conditioning costs as part of a  
17 comprehensive priority list of critical budget items for the  
18 Department of Education; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, the Department of Education has projected that the  
21 provision of necessary air conditioning to each school and  
22 school complex will cost \$1,000,000,000 over the next five  
23 years; and  
24

25           WHEREAS, Hawaii has become too dependent on fossil fuels,  
26 and energy-efficient practices should be put into place to  
27 ensure sustainability, or the use, development, and protection  
28 of resources at a rate and in a manner that enables today's



1 generations to meet their current needs, yet provides for the  
2 needs of future generations; now, therefore,

3  
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
6 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education  
7 is requested to evaluate various alternative air cooling methods  
8 such as fans, heat reduction, insulation, and energy-efficient  
9 individual air conditioning wall units, as well as air cooling  
10 methods that use renewable energy sources to encourage  
11 compliance with "Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design"  
12 standards; and

13  
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the evaluation include  
15 information on utility, installation, and maintenance costs for  
16 the proposed air cooling methods and renewable energy systems to  
17 be used, and information on any electrical upgrades that may be  
18 necessary; and

19  
20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
21 requested to submit a final report of its findings and  
22 recommendations to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior  
23 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

24  
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the evaluation be used to  
26 develop a strategic plan for air cooling methods and to  
27 transition into use of renewable energy sources for the purpose  
28 of installing energy-efficient air cooling systems in public  
29 schools; and

30  
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board  
33 of Education and Superintendent of Education.

