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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AGE-  
APPROPRIATE STANDARDS FOR PRESCHOOL AGE CHILDREN WITH  
SPECIAL NEEDS.

1           WHEREAS, preschool is becoming the norm in American  
2 education, and children who do not attend it start school at a  
3 disadvantage; and

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5           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Preschool Standards are written for  
6 four-year olds who are expected to enter Kindergarten in the  
7 following year; and

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9           WHEREAS, a child who is developmentally delayed must enter  
10 the Department of Education system based on chronological age;  
11 and

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13           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Preschool Standards are not appropriate  
14 for a developmentally delayed child; now, therefore,

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16           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
18 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education  
19 is requested, in coordination with the Family Health Services  
20 Division of the Department of Health, to develop age-appropriate  
21 standards for preschool age children with special needs,  
22 including but not limited to sign language and developmental  
23 milestones and goals, and criteria for preschool readiness; and

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25           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education, in  
26 coordination with the Family Health Services Division of the  
27 Department of Health, is requested to develop age-appropriate  
28 standards to determine when a child is ready for a special  
29 education preschool classroom or an appropriate placement, and  
30 not simply establish that the least-restrictive environment  
31 qualifies as a special education preschool because the child  
32 reaches the age of three; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the  
2 Superintendent of Education is requested to report its standards  
3 to the Legislature twenty days before the convening of the  
4 Regular Session of 2007; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
8 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, the  
9 Director of Health, and the Chief of the Family Health Services  
10 Division.

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OFFERED BY:

Alvin G. Curtek

MAR 15 2006

