
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A PLAN FOR ALL PUBLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS, VICE-PRINCIPALS, AND TEACHERS TO SATISFACTORILY COMPLETE AT LEAST ONE COURSE IN HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE INSTRUCTION AS PART OF THEIR LICENSING REQUIREMENTS.

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Hawaii recognizes
2 English and Hawaiian as the official languages of the State of
3 Hawaii; and

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5 WHEREAS, language contains the intrinsic values of a
6 culture and a recognition that a culture is perpetuated by the
7 use of its language; and

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9 WHEREAS, the sustainability of the Hawaiian culture is
10 dependent on the knowledge, use, and prevalence of the Hawaiian
11 language; and

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13 WHEREAS, understanding and familiarity with the Hawaiian
14 language can be an asset to educators in providing educational
15 programs that are culturally relevant to both native Hawaiian
16 and non-Hawaiian youth; and

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18 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has a Hawaiian language public
19 education system, as well as a Hawaiian language college, to
20 provide for education through the teaching and use of the
21 Hawaiian language in order to perpetuate the Hawaiian culture;
22 and

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24 WHEREAS, more can be done to promote and encourage the use
25 and teaching of the Hawaiian language in order to perpetuate the
26 Hawaiian culture; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the study, learning,
 2 and use of the Hawaiian language by educators and administrators
 3 can offer insight into and understanding of the cultural
 4 heritage and foundation, learning preferences, and traditions of
 5 many of the youth attending public schools in Hawaii; now,
 6 therefore,

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 8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 9 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 10 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
 11 is requested to include as a desirable qualification in job
 12 descriptions used in recruiting and hiring all public school
 13 principals, vice-principals, and teachers the satisfactory
 14 completion of at least one course in Hawaiian language and
 15 culture instruction; and

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 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 18 requested to develop a plan, including creative strategies and
 19 incentives, to encourage current public school principals, vice-
 20 principals, and teachers to satisfactorily complete at least one
 21 course in Hawaiian language and culture instruction as part of
 22 their licensing requirements; and

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 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 25 requested to submit a progress report on implementing this
 26 Concurrent Resolution and any necessary proposed legislation to
 27 the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
 28 of the Regular Session of 2007; and

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

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OFFERED BY: Lyla B. Berg
 MAR 15 2006

