
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PLAN FOR ENROLLMENT
INCREASES AT PAHOA HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL AND TO PLAN
FOR THE SEPARATION OF THE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL UNIT FROM THE
HIGH SCHOOL UNIT.

1 WHEREAS, population growth in the county of Hawaii in the
2 past ten years has far exceeded the growth rate of the entire
3 State; and
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5 WHEREAS, the population in the Puna area on the island of
6 Hawaii has increased fifty-one per cent in the past ten years,
7 the highest rate of population growth in the county of Hawaii;
8 and
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10 WHEREAS, the lower Puna area is quickly transforming from a
11 rural community to a suburban city outside of Hilo; and
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13 WHEREAS, school-aged children constitute thirty per cent of
14 the total population of lower Puna, which is higher than the
15 percentage of school-aged children in the total population of
16 the State; and
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18 WHEREAS, Pahoa High and Intermediate School is one of the
19 few combined intermediate and high schools that follow an
20 outdated model for schools in remote rural areas; and
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22 WHEREAS, there is heightened awareness of the unique
23 developmental growth and needs of middle-school aged children
24 between the ages of twelve and fourteen, which are distinct from
25 the development and needs of high-school aged children; and
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27 WHEREAS, the distinct needs of children between the ages of
28 twelve and fourteen are better served with a separate
29 intermediate and high school that have separate operations and
30 administration systems; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
4 is urged to plan for enrollment increases at Pahoa High and
5 Intermediate School and to plan for the possible separation of
6 the intermediate school unit from the high school unit; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
9 requested to submit a report of its findings, recommendations,
10 if any, and progress to the Legislature no later than twenty
11 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
15 Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of
16 Education, and the principal of Pahoa High and Intermediate
17 School.
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OFFERED BY: Heine Holo

MAR 08 2006

