

---

---

## HOUSE 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  
4

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  
9

10           WHEREAS, the lower Puna area is quickly transforming from a  
11 rural community to a suburban city outside of Hilo; and  
12

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  
17

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20 outdated model for schools in remote rural areas; and  
21

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  
26

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,  
31

32           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
33 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2006, that the Department of Education is urged to plan for  
2 enrollment increases at Pahoa High and Intermediate School and  
3 to plan for the possible separation of the intermediate school  
4 unit from the high school unit; and  
5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
7 requested to submit a report of its findings, recommendations,  
8 if any, and progress to the Legislature no later than twenty  
9 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and  
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chairperson of  
13 the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the  
14 principal of Pahoa High and Intermediate School.  
15  
16  
17

OFFERED BY: *Heine Hulae*

MAR 08 2006

