
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S HAWAIIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a need to
2 conduct a study of the effectiveness of the department of
3 education's Hawaiian education program.

4 The legislature finds that the Hawaiian education program
5 is a mandate of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, article
6 X, section 4, and is implemented in public elementary schools as
7 a Hawaiian studies and language program to assist students to
8 learn, understand, and appreciate Hawaiian language, culture,
9 and history. The program utilizes a kupuna (elder) component,
10 who is a community resource person with expertise in Hawaii's
11 cultural heritage. The kupuna assist classroom teachers in the
12 delivery of Hawaiian education program instruction. The
13 Hawaiian education program is a viable part of the perpetuation
14 of the native Hawaiian language and culture, and the board of
15 education's support for the program is an integral part of the
16 Hawaii content and performance standards.



1 The legislature further finds that many schools do not
2 implement the Hawaiian education program in all grade levels,
3 and the program curriculum is outdated and requires support and
4 assistance by the department of education. A study would be
5 helpful in assisting the department of education with the
6 quality and consistency of delivery of the Hawaiian education
7 program.

8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
9 legislative reference bureau to conduct a study of the
10 department of education's Hawaiian education program to identify
11 concerns and issues regarding the delivery and implementation of
12 that program and submit a report of findings and recommendations
13 to the legislature and governor before the convening of the
14 regular session of 2007.

15 SECTION 2. The legislative reference bureau shall conduct
16 a study of the department of education's Hawaiian education
17 program that shall include, but not be limited to, the following
18 topics:

- 19 (1) A review of pay scales for all kupuna associated with
20 the Hawaiian studies and language program, with
21 particular attention to pay equity across the program
22 and from school to school;

- 1 (2) A review of the Hawaiian studies and language
2 program's support for professional development for
3 teachers in the programs;
- 4 (3) A review of the effectiveness of the program in
5 complying with the mandate to promote the study of
6 Hawaiian culture, history, and language, as provided
7 in the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, article X,
8 section 4; and
- 9 (4) A review of the program's development of curriculum
10 and materials for use in the delivery of the program's
11 educational goals.

12 If the legislative reference bureau is unable to conduct
13 the study by itself out of available resources, it may work with
14 independent consultants and other entities as the legislative
15 reference bureau deems appropriate.

16 SECTION 3. The legislative reference bureau shall submit
17 the study findings and recommendations, including any necessary
18 proposed legislation, to the legislature and governor no later
19 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
20 of 2007.

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Edwin K. St. Paul

BY REQUEST

JAN 23 2006



Report Title:

Office of Hawaiian Affairs; DOE Hawaiian Education Program

Description:

Requires the legislative reference bureau to conduct a study of the department of education's Hawaiian education program to identify concerns and issues regarding the delivery and implementation of the program.

