

JAN 25 2006

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE OFFICE OF SCHOOL REDESIGN.

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

1 SECTION 1. There is compelling evidence, both locally and
2 nationally, that high school students who are in a small school
3 setting tend to reach higher levels of achievement, are more
4 likely to form personal relationships, be more engaged in school
5 activities, and are more likely to attend college or have
6 post-secondary plans after graduation.

7 Hawaii's high schools are among the largest in the United
8 States and were designed over sixty years ago to meet the needs
9 of another age. Even if these schools work exactly as designed,
10 our schools cannot teach our students what they need to know.
11 We need schools that can meet the needs of the 21st century
12 learner. Learners today depend on their ability to work with
13 others, to problem solve, and to apply academic learning to real
14 problems.

15 There is a direct connection between school size and how a
16 student views the learning experience. If our high schools are
17 to provide the best educational opportunities possible for all
18 students, Hawaii's high schools must create smaller learning



1 communities within the larger school setting. Small learning
2 communities can be designed to help students feel that they are
3 part of a defined group, that they are connected to caring and
4 supportive adults, that they are allowed to explore their
5 interests, and that their individual learning styles are being
6 addressed.

7 The office of school redesign, in consultation with the
8 office of school redesign advisory committee, has assumed the
9 responsibility of advocating for the creation and implementation
10 of redesigned small high schools in Hawaii. In working with the
11 department of education and the college of education at the
12 University of Hawaii, the office of school redesign will:

- 13 (1) Develop and maintain a research database of redesign
14 efforts both nationally and locally;
- 15 (2) Provide technical assistance to schools that are
16 seriously entertaining ideas about cultural and
17 structural redesign efforts, including school
18 visitations;
- 19 (3) Work with schools on professional development
20 activities and programs that promote redesign efforts;
- 21 (4) Provide technical and financial assistance to schools
22 that are engaged in redesign efforts, including



1 assistance in preparing grants, raising funds, and
2 providing incentives to redesign schools;

3 (5) Initiate and maintain dialogue with the department of
4 education, other organizations, program directors,
5 institutions, and individuals that are developing and
6 implementing school redesign;

7 (6) Assist schools in integrating the school's academic
8 and financial plans with redesign efforts;

9 (7) Engage members of the legislature and the business
10 community in developing, implementing, and supporting
11 school redesign efforts; and

12 (8) Work with the department of education professional
13 development and educational research institute and the
14 college of education at the University of Hawaii to
15 develop and implement a leadership institute for
16 school leaders.

17 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$500,000, or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to the
20 University of Hawaii office of school redesign to purchase
21 resource materials for school use and visitations, to provide

1 direct services to schools engaged in school redesign efforts,
2 and to fund overhead and personnel costs of the office.

3 SECTION 3. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
4 University of Hawaii for the purposes of this Act, including the
5 hiring of necessary staff.

6 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

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INTRODUCED BY: Wm. S. Sabatini

SB. NO. 2722

Report Title:

Appropriation; University of Hawaii; Office of School Redesign

Description:

Appropriates \$500,000 for the office of school redesign for the 2006-2007 fiscal year.

