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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT AND UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE STATES WITH THE NECESSARY FUNDING TO IMPLEMENT THE GOALS OF THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001 AND OTHER EDUCATION-RELATED PROGRAMS AND TO OFFER STATES WAIVERS OR EXEMPTIONS FROM RELATED REGULATIONS WHEN FEDERAL FUNDING FOR ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION IS DECREASED.

1 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii has long pursued the goal of  
2 improving the academic performance of all students, especially  
3 those of minority racial and ethnic backgrounds, lower economic  
4 status, and limited English proficiency, and those with learning  
5 disabilities or challenges; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii, therefore, applauds the  
8 President of the United States and Congress for setting the same  
9 goals in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and emphasizing  
10 the urgency in closing the achievement gaps for these students;  
11 and

12  
13 WHEREAS, the No Child Left Behind Act has encouraged some  
14 needed changes in public education and was initially accompanied  
15 by relatively large increases in federal funding for public  
16 elementary and secondary education; and

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18 WHEREAS, the increases in federal funding since the first  
19 year of implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act have been  
20 minimal and insufficient to meet its requirements; and

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22 WHEREAS, the federal government has decreased funding for  
23 programs implementing the No Child Left Behind Act in fiscal  
24 year 2006 by almost \$800,000,000, and for overall public  
25 education by \$606,000,000, including cuts of more than  
26 \$165,000,000 from postsecondary education and over \$20,000,000  
27 from programs for students with disabilities; now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third  
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the



1 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii Legislature  
 2 urges the President of the United States and United States  
 3 Congress to make a serious commitment to improving the quality  
 4 of the nation's public schools by substantially increasing its  
 5 funding for implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act, the  
 6 Higher Education Act, the Individuals with Disabilities  
 7 Education Act, and other education-related programs; and

8  
 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Hawaii requests  
 10 that in any year that federal funding for public elementary and  
 11 secondary education is decreased, the President, United States  
 12 Congress, and the United States Department of Education create  
 13 flexibility in No Child Left Behind Act requirements through the  
 14 use of state waivers, exemptions, or other mechanisms; and

15  
 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
 18 United States, the President Pro Tempore of the United States  
 19 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of  
 20 Representatives, the United States Secretary of Education, and  
 21 Hawaii's congressional delegation.

OFFERED BY:

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