
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A SEPARATE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE MEDIUM EDUCATION FOR THE DIRECTION AND CONTROL OF THE PROGRAM AND TO COLLABORATE WITH THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE COLLEGE, KA HAKA `ULA O KE`ELIKŌLANI, UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO TO ADDRESS HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE MEDIUM EDUCATION.

1 WHEREAS, in 1986, the Legislature removed a ban on the use
2 of the Hawaiian language in public schools that had been in
3 effect since the territory of Hawaii due to federal
4 requirements; and

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6 WHEREAS, in 1987, the Legislature called on the Department
7 of Education to implement the Hawaiian language medium education
8 program, which resulted in public schools using Hawaiian as a
9 medium of public education after a ban of ninety years; and

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11 WHEREAS, also in 1987, the Legislature called upon the
12 Congress of the United States to recognize Hawaiian as a Native
13 American language, which led to the passage of the federal 1990
14 Native American Languages Act recognizing the right of all
15 Native Americans to be educated in their native language; and

16
17 WHEREAS, Hawaii has since become the national leader in
18 educating Native Americans in their native language and is
19 recognized in numerous national and international publications;
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, in 1997, the Legislature passed Act 315,
23 establishing a Hawaiian language college at the University of
24 Hawaii at Hilo and providing specialized support for the State's
25 Hawaiian language medium teacher training program, which
26 included a laboratory school program; and

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28 WHEREAS, the academic success of public school students in
29 the laboratory program has seen a one hundred per cent
30 graduation rate, with over eighty per cent of its graduates



1 enrolling in college, and its former students enrolled at
2 Stanford University, Oxford University, as well as the
3 University of Hawaii system; and
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5 WHEREAS, the academic success of Hawaii public school
6 students has drawn to the laboratory school program a national
7 research team that includes participation from the University of
8 California at Berkeley, Arizona State University, Western
9 Washington University, Education Testing Services of Princeton,
10 Rand Corporation, Northwest Educational Laboratory, and other
11 entities; and
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13 WHEREAS, the lack of similar specialized administrative
14 support has hampered the achievement of similar success in other
15 public school sites that teach through the Hawaiian language
16 medium program, in spite of gains made in Hawaiian language
17 medium education for at-risk children; and
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19 WHEREAS, the federal No Child Left Behind Act has created
20 internal pressures within the present structure of joint
21 administration of English and Hawaiian language medium education
22 that threaten the continued integrity of the State's Hawaiian
23 language medium education program; and
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25 WHEREAS, provisions of the federal 1990 native American
26 Languages Act indicate that separate administration of the
27 State's Hawaiian language medium education program would be
28 appropriate; and
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30 WHEREAS, section 302H-3 and section 302H-7, Hawaii Revised
31 Statutes, authorize separate administration of Hawaiian language
32 medium education and collaboration with the Hawaiian language
33 college, respectively; now, therefore,
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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the
37 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature urges
38 the Board of Education to:
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- 40 (1) Create a separate office of Hawaiian language medium
41 education for the direction and control of the
42 program; and
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1 (2) Work collaboratively with the Hawaiian language
 2 college of the University of Hawaii at Hilo to address
 3 Hawaiian language medium education to revitalize,
 4 maintain, and strengthen the Hawaiian language; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 7 Concurrent Resolution be provided to the Chairperson of the
 8 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the
 9 Director of the Hawaiian Language College, Ka Haka `Ula O
 10 Ke`elikōlani, University of Hawaii at Hilo.

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Helen Gosh

OFFERED BY:

[Signature]

Lorraine Q. Brown

Will Zero

[Signature]

