
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO DEVELOP AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE
IMMERSION MAGNET SCHOOL ON OAHU.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that 18,000 students, or
2 approximately ten percent of the public student population, is
3 identified as "English as Second Language" learners; and
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5 WHEREAS, the self-reported ethnicity of Hawaii's public
6 school students in the 2005-2006 school year included over
7 twenty-six percent of students identified as part or full
8 Hawaiian, over twenty percent identified as Filipino, almost ten
9 percent identified as Japanese, more than three percent each
10 identified as Samoan and Chinese, and almost three percent
11 identified as Hispanic; and
12

13 WHEREAS, hundreds of language immersion and two-way
14 bi-lingual programs exist across the country; and
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16 WHEREAS, Hawaii's own demographics place it in a unique
17 position among the other states to create effective language
18 immersion and two-way bilingual public school programs; and
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20 WHEREAS, public Hawaiian language immersion schools have
21 been enjoying extraordinary success and popularity among parents
22 and students, resulting in an exponential student population
23 growth; and
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25 WHEREAS, a magnet language school as a new education
26 alternative that incorporates Pacific Rim languages into
27 immersion and two-way bilingual programs would capitalize on our
28 State's wealth of resident cultures and languages, and bring
29 academics in our public schools to new heights; and
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31 WHEREAS, immersion and two-way bilingual education programs
32 would offer Hawaii's children a more competitive advantage in
33 our increasingly global economy; now, therefore
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the establishment of a
4 magnet immersion and two-way bilingual public school would be a
5 worthwhile and valuable endeavor; and

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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
8 requested to establish a magnet language immersion school task
9 force to plan, develop, and realize a magnet immersion and two-
10 way bilingual public school in Hawaii that incorporates
11 languages which could include Mandarin, Japanese, Tagalog,
12 Korean, French, and Spanish; and

13
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be
15 comprised of the following members:

- 16
17 (1) Superintendent of Education, or the Superintendent's
18 designee;
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20 (2) The Chair of the Board of Education, or the Chair's
21 designee;
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23 (3) The President of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board,
24 or the President's designee;
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26 (4) The President of the Hawaii State Teachers
27 Association, or the President's designee;
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29 (5) A member of the Department of Education Strategic Plan
30 Steering Committee;
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32 (6) A member of the Hawaii business community to be
33 appointed by the Governor;
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35 (7) Two members of the Hawaii ethnic cultural community
36 with an emphasis on international education to be
37 appointed by the Governor;
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39 (8) Two members of nonprofit educational agencies with an
40 emphasis on international education; and
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42 (9) Two existing or prospective language immersion or
43 bi-lingual education teachers; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall designate
2 its own chairperson, who shall have the primary responsibility
3 in carrying out the purposes of this resolution; and

4
5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall:

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7 (1) Gather all current and necessary research on Hawaii
8 demographics and educational models relevant to the
9 creation of a magnet language school that would
10 service Hawaii's communities effectively;
- 11
12 (2) Meet once a month to draft a short-term magnet
13 immersion and two-way bilingual school development
14 plan to commence in one year to eighteen months;
- 15
16 (3) Identify target Pacific Rim languages and cultures to
17 be implemented into magnet school programs;
- 18
19 (4) Identify methods to grow the program and establish
20 long-range development goals;
- 21
22 (5) Designate a curriculum model for developing fluent
23 bilingual education and literacy skills in each target
24 language;
- 25
26 (6) Collaborate with the Department of Education, existing
27 Department immersion and two-way bilingual programs,
28 community education and business organizations, and
29 other international education stakeholders; and
- 30
31 (7) Conduct any other business deemed necessary to carry
32 out the purpose of this Resolution; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall provide
35 the Legislature with a report, including proposed legislation,
36 at least twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
37 Session of 2007; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
41 Education, the Chair of the Board of Education, the Office of
42 the Governor, the President of the Hawaii Teacher Standards
43 Board, the President of the Hawaii State Teachers Association,



1 and the Chair of the Department of Education Strategic Plan
2 Steering Committee.

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OFFERED BY: Inzanne Chun aakland

*Paula L
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