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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE AUDITOR CONDUCT A FISCAL AND PROGRAM AUDIT  
OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S HAWAIIAN STUDIES PROGRAM.

1           WHEREAS, a mandate from the 1978 Constitutional Convention  
2 created the Department of Education's Hawaiian Studies program,  
3 which is now implemented in all public elementary school grades  
4 K-6 to help students develop an understanding and appreciation  
5 of Hawaiian culture, history, language, values, and practices;  
6 and  
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8           WHEREAS, the program includes a component of kupuna, who  
9 are elders or "grandparents" in a generational line with makua,  
10 "parents," and keiki, "children," and who have expertise in  
11 Hawaiian cultural heritage and assist classroom teachers in  
12 Hawaiian studies instruction; and  
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14           WHEREAS, in response to budget cuts, kupuna and makua  
15 established the organization, Ka Lei Papahi o Kakuhihewa, which  
16 is dedicated to maintaining the integrity of the Hawaiian  
17 Studies program, and to ensuring that the program remains a  
18 permanent part of the Department of Education curriculum; and  
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20           WHEREAS, kupuna and makua spend a great deal of time  
21 preparing lesson plans without the benefit of compensation or  
22 reimbursement for classroom supplies purchased with personal  
23 funds; and  
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25           WHEREAS, many schools have stopped implementing the  
26 Hawaiian Studies program for all K-6 grade levels, and the  
27 program curriculum has become outdated and requires renewed  
28 support from the Department of Education to maintain its  
29 viability; and  
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31           WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that a fiscal audit of the  
32 Hawaiian Studies program would advance public knowledge of its  
33 budget and spending, thereby increasing its transparency and  
34 accountability; and



1           WHEREAS, the use of "A" and "B" funds has not been  
 2 consistently implemented throughout the Hawaiian Studies  
 3 program, and there is evidence that some schools may be paying  
 4 kupuna and makua instructors at the education assistant rate,  
 5 rather than the part-time teacher rate, which could be as much  
 6 as fifty percent less than what they are rightfully entitled to;  
 7 and

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 9           WHEREAS, Hawaiian Studies program kupuna play an essential  
 10 role in the perpetuation of native Hawaiian language and  
 11 culture; now, therefore,

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 13           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third  
 14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the  
 15 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is  
 16 requested to conduct a fiscal audit of the Department of  
 17 Education's Hawaiian Studies program, specifically with regard  
 18 to its kupuna component, to clarify the numerous inconsistencies  
 19 in its budget and spending; and

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 21           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit shall include a  
 22 review of all moneys appropriated and expended for the program  
 23 at both the Department of Education and individual school  
 24 levels, including "A" funds for salary and "B" funds for all  
 25 other expenditures; and

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 27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
 28 requested to cooperate with and assist the Auditor in the  
 29 performance of this audit; and

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 31           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
 32 conduct a program audit of the Hawaiian Studies program to  
 33 identify any areas of concern regarding its delivery or  
 34 implementation with specific regard to any inconsistencies in  
 35 kupuna assignment, and teaching schedules, and pay rates; and

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 37           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to  
 38 submit findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
 39 legislation, to the Legislature regarding their respective  
 40 audits no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the  
 41 Regular Session of 2007; and

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 43           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 44 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the



1 Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of  
3 Education, and the Auditor.

