
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY
STUDY TO ESTABLISH A ONE-TO-ONE COMPUTER ACCESS PROGRAM
WITHIN THE STATE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that a quality education
2 remains one of the most important topics of concern among
3 residents of the state; and
4

5 WHEREAS, providing the best possible education should
6 include the use of technology and increased access to the use of
7 computers and the Internet; and
8

9 WHEREAS, investment in learning technology has been
10 nationally recognized as a pivotal component in the creation of
11 a skilled workforce capable of promoting economic development
12 and long-term sustainability; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DOE) has readied the
15 State's educational environment for increased learning
16 technology with the success of programs such as E-school,
17 Project EAST, and several robotics programs; and
18

19 WHEREAS, there is a need to bridge the digital divide that
20 currently exists between students of varying socio-economical
21 backgrounds and one way to bridge this divide is to ensure
22 access to computers and technology for all students; and
23

24 WHEREAS, there is a need to maximize the amount of time
25 students are exposed to advanced technology to gain familiarity,
26 practice skill sets, and achieve competence on computer
27 applications; and
28

29 WHEREAS, there is a need to provide teachers with practical
30 tools and equipment to assist them with organizing information,
31 researching curriculum material, and other such mechanisms to
32 diminish their heavy workload; and



1 WHEREAS, the concept of one computer per child, called
2 "one-to-one computing," is an educational experiment that is
3 becoming more common across the nation as one-to-one computing
4 programs have boosted academic achievement by improving writing
5 and reading test scores and getting students more engaged in
6 learning; and
7

8 WHEREAS, the state of Maine has already enacted a highly
9 successful one-to-one computer access program which has provided
10 36,000 laptop computers, one for every seventh and eighth grade
11 public school student and their teachers; and
12

13 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the adoption of a one-
14 to-one computer program similar to Maine's would greatly enhance
15 the quality of education in the state; now, therefore,
16

17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
19 Session of 2007, that DOE is requested to conduct a feasibility
20 study of establishing a one-to-one computer access program
21 similar to that of Maine's or other similar programs across the
22 nation, for middle school students and teachers; and
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study include:
25

- 26 (1) The current use of learning technology in classrooms
27 in the state;
28
29 (2) The current readiness of faculty to use technology in
30 teaching;
31
32 (3) The cost of supplying seventh and eighth grade
33 students and their teachers with laptop computers and
34 computer-related equipment;
35
36 (4) Recommendations of strategies and goals for improving
37 and equalizing access to and the use of learning
38 technology in all schools;



(5) Data on learning technology initiatives developed and implemented by school districts across the nation, including funding mechanisms, types of technologies used, and the impact on teachers and students;

(6) Available funding mechanisms, such as public-private partnerships and endowments, to fund a one-to-one computer program in the state; and

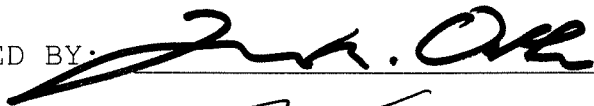

(7) A strategic plan on creating and implementing a Hawaii Learning Technology Initiative within the DOE;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOE is requested to submit a report and any proposed legislation to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 14 2007

