HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2007 STATE OF HAWAII H.C.R. NO. <sup>124</sup> H.D. 1

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPROVE ITS DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES BY RECONSIDERING THE RATES PAID TO INTENSIVE INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES CONSULTANTS.

1 WHEREAS, since the lifting of the Felix consent decree in 2 2005, the Department of Education has decreased its spending on 3 special education contracts; and 4

5 WHEREAS, parents of special education students have noted
6 that some services for their children have gradually been
7 eliminated and that the number of available intensive
8 instructional services consultants are being restricted; and
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10 WHEREAS, services provided by intensive instructional
11 services consultants include skills training, parent training,
12 and supportive services for children with special needs; and
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14 WHEREAS, the rates paid for these services have been15 changed, standardized, or capped by the Department of Education;16 and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature understands that there is a need 19 to establish a standard rate for intensive instructional 20 services consultants and that proposed consultant rates are 21 scheduled to take effect July 1, 2007; and

WHEREAS, families in need of psychiatric services through
the Department of Education may suffer or experience hardship
due to the new rates paid to consultants; and

WHEREAS, given the requirements of the No Child Left Behind
Act, the State of Hawaii can ill afford a loss of services to
special needs children; now, therefore,

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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Department of 3 4 Education is requested to review the discrepancies between the current rates paid to intensive instructional services 5 6 consultants and the proposed rates that are scheduled to take 7 effect on July 1, 2007, as well as determine the impact of the proposed rates on special needs students and their families; and 8 9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is 11 requested to report its findings regarding the consequences of 12 changing rates to the legislature not less than twenty days 13 before the beginning of the 2008 legislative session; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is 16 requested to convene with the Department of Health to determine 17 how the area of Honoka'a on the island of Hawaii and similar 18 areas in the state can be designated as "rural"; and

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

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