A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

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PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that pursuant to Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, as amended, (Act 51, as amended), 3 the weighted student formula was established to provide more 4 5 equity in funding for public schools through the use of weighted 6 characteristics affecting the relative cost of educating each 7 student attending a public school. Act 51, as amended, also 8 established the committee on weights to develop a weighted 9 student formula based upon student characteristics, assign 10 specific weights for the characteristics, identify what funds 11 are included in the weighted student formula allocation, and 12 perform any other functions necessary for the implementation of 13 the weighted student formula.

After the committee on weights I made its recommendations to the board of education and a weighted student formula was established in 2005, it became clear that many small and rural schools would be severely and adversely affected upon full

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implementation. Therefore, it became necessary for the
legislature to appropriate additional funds to the public
schools to off-set monetary deficits resulting from the
transition to the weighted student formula.

5 The legislature continues to support and is committed to 6 the objectives and goals of Act 51, as amended, but is mindful 7 that the implementation of the weighted student formula must 8 continue to be refined to appropriately and equitably address 9 the needs of all students and schools. As great care was taken to evaluate, develop, and implement the weighted student formula 10 11 approach, equal care and consideration must be invested in 12 fashioning an improved method for providing adequate and 13 appropriate funding to the schools.

14 The legislature further finds that the schools that appear to suffer the most under the weighted student formula fall into 15 16 certain categories, such as schools with smaller student 17 enrollment, geographically isolated schools, schools with a 18 large number of transient students or non-English proficient 19 students, or a combination of these. Therefore, although these 20 characteristics are already taken into consideration under the 21 weighted student formula, adequate funds have not been available 22 to address these disadvantages. The legislature believes that

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1	schools and students with these characteristics that suffer
2	adverse impacts under the weighted student formula must be
3	provided additional funding.
4	The purpose of this part is to augment the weighted student
5	formula allocations to bring funding of negatively impacted
6	schools closer to adequacy.
7	SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
8	revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
9	much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
10	the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
11	year 2008-2009, to augment funds provided under weighted student
12	formula allocations for the educational needs of the following
13	students negatively impacted by the implementation of the
14	weighted student formula:
15	(1) Students in geographically isolated schools;
16	(2) Students in multitrack schools;
17	(3) Transient students;
18	(4) Students in small schools; and
19	(5) Non-English proficient students.
20	The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
21	of education for the purposes of this part.
22	PART II

1 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that the board of 2 education, in 2002, approved the superintendent's proposal to 3 establish complex areas, headed by complex area superintendents 4 and comprised of two or more school complexes. Each school 5 complex consists of a high school and the intermediate or middle 6 and elementary schools that feed into it. The establishment of 7 complex areas allows each administrator to focus on the needs of 8 the supporting schools and school complexes to provide better 9 supervision and support.

10 The legislature believes that the establishment of complex 11 areas provides the opportunity for the more efficient management 12 of funds and personnel among schools and school complexes 13 contained therein.

14 The purpose of this part is to authorize and appropriate 15 funds for complex area superintendents to provide support to 16 school administrators, school community councils, staff, and 17 teachers in the form of training, expertise, and materials 18 necessary for schools to fulfill their responsibilities.

19 SECTION 4. Section 302A-604, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is20 amended to read as follows:

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S.B. NO. $^{1136}_{S.D. 2}$

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1	"§302A-604 Complex area superintendents. (a) The
2	superintendent of education, with the approval of the board,
3	shall appoint complex area superintendents for schools.
4	(b) The complex area superintendents shall supervise the
5	delivery of administrative and instructional support services
6	within their respective complex areas, including:
7	(1) Personnel, fiscal, and facilities support;
8	(2) Monitoring of compliance with applicable state and
9	federal laws; and
10	(3) Curriculum development, student assessment, and staff
11	development services.
12	(c) The complex area superintendents shall provide support
13	to school administrators, school community councils, staff, and
14	teachers in the areas specified under subsection (b); provided
15	that the support shall be provided in the form of training,
16	expertise, and materials necessary for schools to effectively
17	meet the responsibilities referenced in subsection (b)."
18	SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
19	revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
20	much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009, for
21	complex area superintendents to provide support to school

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administrators, school community councils, staff, and teachers 1 2 for: Personnel, fiscal, and facilities support; 3 (1) 4 Monitoring of compliance with applicable state and (2) 5 federal laws; and 6 (3) Curriculum development, student assessment, and staff 7 development services, in the manner specified in section 302A-604(c), Hawaii Revised 8 9 Statutes; provided that funds provided shall be in addition to 10 weighted student formula allocations. 11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of 12 education for the purposes of this part. 13 PART III 14 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general 15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so 16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and 17 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal 18 year 2008-2009, only for junior kindergarten classes with fifteen or fewer students; provided that underachieving schools 19 20 and schools with a high percentage of students eligible for free 21 or reduced price lunches shall be given priority.

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1	The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2	of education for the purposes of this part.
3	PART IV
4	SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.
5	SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007;
6	provided that part II of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
7	2008.

Report Title:

DOE; Weighted Student Formula; Appropriation; Complex Area Superintendents; Authority

Description:

Appropriates funds for schools and students meeting specific criteria outside of weighted student formula allocations. Allows complex area superintendents to provide support within the complex areas and appropriates funds therefor. Appropriates funds for junior kindergarten classes with fifteen or fewer students. (SD2)

