

MAR 14 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE FOR HIGH
ACHIEVING STUDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, the No Child Left Behind Act has forced schools to
2 focus their funding and efforts on the lowest achieving students
3 in order to meet the mandates of Adequate Yearly Progress
4 required by that Act; and

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6 WHEREAS, students who are capable of high academic
7 achievement, become unchallenged, bored, and may exhibit
8 behavioral problems in class, and are not reaching their full
9 potential; and

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11 WHEREAS, many families with highly capable children have
12 chosen to send their children to private schools because of a
13 perceived lack of challenging curricula in public schools; and

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15 WHEREAS, the gifted and talented programs that do exist in
16 the public schools often serve a very small percentage of highly
17 capable students; and

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19 WHEREAS, many students deemed "unqualified" for current
20 gifted and talented programs are actually capable of high
21 achievement through "perspiration" and "aspiration"; and

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23 WHEREAS, open-enrollment gifted and talented programs,
24 similar to programs at Kahuku High School and Kahuku
25 Intermediate School, show that many more students than
26 previously contemplated are capable of meeting the demands of
27 rigorous and challenging curricula; now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
31 that the Department of Education is requested to develop a
32 comprehensive plan to promote opportunities for high achievement
33 with the goal of twenty per cent of public school students
34 enrolling in gifted and talented programs, honors classes,
35 advanced placement courses, International Baccalaureate



1 programs, or other similar programs designed to provide rigorous
2 and challenging curricula; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the comprehensive plan include
5 the following:

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7 (1) The number of students currently enrolled in gifted
8 and talented programs or similar programs with highly
9 challenging academic curricula;
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11 (2) Recommendations on ways to increase the number of
12 enrolled students in gifted and talented programs or
13 similar programs with highly challenging academic
14 curricula, in order to reach the goal of twenty per
15 cent of public school students enrolled in such
16 programs;
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18 (3) Recommendations on methods to include students in the
19 gifted and talented programs who may not exhibit the
20 traditional qualifications for acceptance into such
21 programs, but who demonstrate a high aptitude for
22 achievement by other performance measures;
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24 (4) Program recommendations to provide opportunities for
25 potentially high achieving students;
- 26
27 (5) Program recommendations in the areas of language arts,
28 social studies, math, science, fine arts, performing
29 arts, and foreign languages; and
- 30
31 (6) The personnel requirements and costs associated with
32 the comprehensive plan; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
35 requested to submit its plan and any findings and
36 recommendations to this body no later than twenty days prior to
37 the convening of the 2008 Regular Session; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this



S.R. NO. 45

1 Resolution be transmitted to the Board of Education and the
2 Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

Norman Satm

