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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED  
SCHOOLS UNDER THE WEIGHTED STUDENT FORMULA.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the cost of  
2 providing educational programs and services is significantly  
3 higher for geographically isolated schools. Large schools tend  
4 to benefit from economies of scale while geographically isolated  
5 schools operate at a higher cost per pupil due to necessary  
6 fixed expenditures and low student enrollment. In comparison to  
7 schools that are geographically located near other schools and  
8 to schools with high student enrollment, geographically isolated  
9 schools have comparatively fewer resources available to them.

10           The weighted student formula for school year 2008-2009  
11 includes a school size adjustment based on a sliding scale that  
12 provides an additional subsidy to schools as their student  
13 enrollment increases. Geographic isolation and a school's  
14 location on a neighbor island are also recognized as student  
15 characteristics considered under the weighted student formula  
16 per pupil allocation. The legislature further finds that the  
17 combination of low student enrollment and geographic isolation



1 merits supplemental funding to offset higher costs per pupil  
2 required to operate geographically isolated schools with low  
3 enrollment.

4 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to assist  
5 students of geographically isolated schools to explore academic  
6 enhancement.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
9 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
10 school-based budgeting, as an additional amount for travel and  
11 associated costs, to assist students of geographically isolated  
12 schools to explore academic enhancement.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
14 education for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

16 INTRODUCED BY: Calvin K. Ay

BY REQUEST  
JAN 23 2008

**Report Title:**

Schools; Weighted Student Formula

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to assist geographically isolated schools under the weighted student formula.

