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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in 2007, the  
2 department of education initiated an energy savings program that  
3 called for public schools that exceeded their base electricity  
4 budgets to pay the department of education half of the amount of  
5 the excess, and for public schools that decreased their energy  
6 expenses to get a rebate from the department of education for  
7 half of their savings.

8           The base energy usage was determined by taking a three-year  
9 average of electricity usage, and that base is used to determine  
10 whether a school is lowering or increasing its energy  
11 consumption. However, the legislature also finds that the  
12 department of education itself rents out space at various public  
13 schools to department of education entities or to private  
14 entities, contributing to the energy consumption at a school.  
15 The department has no incentive to reduce its own or the energy  
16 consumption of the lessees, on a school campus. This creates a  
17 situation where a school may show that it is increasing its



1 energy consumption while the increase is actually attributable  
2 to the department itself or its lessees.

3 Leased offices, generally open forty hours a week, tend to  
4 use more electricity than an average classroom and adversely  
5 impact the budget of schools that rent out office space.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to discount the  
7 electricity used by leased entities of the department of  
8 education when situated on school campuses in determining the  
9 cost of increases in its electricity usage.

10 SECTION 2. For the purpose of any state program that  
11 measures electricity usage at public schools, the electricity  
12 usage of the department of education on school campuses shall  
13 not be attributable to the school. If the department of  
14 education is unable to determine the amount of its electricity  
15 usage on a particular school campus, no detriment shall accrue  
16 to the school.

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

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INTRODUCED BY: *Shirley Marmonte*

JAN 23 2008



**Report Title:**

Education

**Description:**

Alters Department of Education's energy-savings program to account for state department offices located at individual schools.

