
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO PROVIDE CURRENT PUBLIC SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND FACULTY WITH COURSES IN HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE INSTRUCTION, AND TO INCORPORATE THESE COURSES INTO THE DEPARTMENT'S PREFERENCES FOR EMPLOYMENT AND CONDITIONS FOR TEACHER LICENSURE.

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of Hawaii recognizes
2 English and Hawaiian as the official languages of the State of
3 Hawaii; and

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5 WHEREAS, language contains the intrinsic values of a
6 culture and culture is perpetuated by the use of language; and

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8 WHEREAS, the sustainability of the Hawaiian culture is
9 dependent on the knowledge, use, and prevalence of the Hawaiian
10 language; and

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12 WHEREAS, understanding and familiarity with the Hawaiian
13 language can be an asset to educators in providing educational
14 programs that are culturally relevant to both native Hawaiian
15 and non-Hawaiian youth; and

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17 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii Hawaiian language public
18 education system, as well as its Hawaiian language college,
19 perpetuate the Hawaiian culture through the teaching and use of
20 the Hawaiian language; and

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22 WHEREAS, more can be done to promote and encourage the use
23 and teaching of the Hawaiian language to perpetuate the Hawaiian
24 culture; and



1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the study, learning,
2 and use of the Hawaiian language by educators and administrators
3 can offer insight into and understanding of the cultural
4 heritage and foundation, learning preferences, and traditions of
5 many of the youth attending public schools in Hawaii; now,
6 therefore,
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
9 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
10 Session of 2008, that the Department of Education (DOE) is
11 requested to include as a desirable qualification in job
12 descriptions used in recruiting and hiring all public school
13 principals, vice principals, and teachers, the satisfactory
14 completion of at least one course in Hawaiian language and
15 culture instruction; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOE is requested to develop a
18 plan in collaboration with the University of Hawaii (UH) at
19 Manoa Center for Hawaiian Studies, and Hookulaiwi Program of the
20 UH at Manoa College of Education, to encourage current public
21 school principals, vice principals, and teachers to
22 satisfactorily complete at least one course in Hawaiian language
23 and culture instruction, including creative strategies and
24 incentives; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the UH at Manoa Center for
27 Hawaiian Studies is requested to initiate a planning dialogue
28 which includes a re-evaluation by the Hawaii Teacher Standards
29 Board to consider incorporating the completion of Hawaiian
30 language and culture courses as a requirement of state teacher
31 licensure, and incorporating the requirement into satisfactory
32 performance indicators; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOE is requested to submit a
35 progress report on implementing this Resolution and any
36 necessary proposed legislation to the Legislature no later than
37 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009;
38 and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
3 Education, Superintendent of Education, Dean of the UH at Manoa
4 College of Education, Director of the UH at Manoa Center for
5 Hawaiian Studies, Director of the Hookulaiwi Program of the UH
6 at Manoa College of Education, and Chairperson of the Hawaii
7 Teacher Standards Board.

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