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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 the report of the  
2 online learning task force established by Act 275, Session Laws  
3 of Hawaii 2007, provides a plan to the department of education  
4 for expanding online learning opportunities for students across  
5 the State. Online learning is a strategic vehicle that will  
6 define the department as a 21<sup>st</sup> century learning institution.

7           The purpose of this Act is to direct the department of  
8 education to adopt and implement recommendations and strategic  
9 goals contained in the task force's report.

10          SECTION 2. The department of education shall adopt the  
11 following recommendations of the online learning task force to:

12           (1) Follow a two-pronged delivery model of services and  
13           continue to operate the Myron B. Thompson academy  
14           full-time cyber academy, or similar schools, as well  
15           as establish a Hawaii virtual learning network for  
16           supplemental programs;

17           (2) Establish a task force to review the State's education  
18           policies, requirements, and oversight functions for



- 1           congruency with the needs and potential of online  
2           learning;
- 3           (3) Allow both parents and students to access information  
4           about online curriculum;
- 5           (4) Develop and establish a mentoring and training program  
6           for online teachers, collaborating with the University  
7           of Hawaii department of educational technology as  
8           needed;
- 9           (5) Develop and establish an online training program to  
10          increase the number of highly qualified teachers,  
11          administrators, and paraprofessionals;
- 12          (6) Provide support and incentives to teachers who become  
13          qualified to teach online courses and for teachers who  
14          utilize online courses to incorporate project-based  
15          and work-relevant learning;
- 16          (7) Standardize the procedure for granting credits for  
17          online coursework;
- 18          (8) Assist schools with online standards-based college  
19          preparatory curriculum;
- 20          (9) Expand credit recovery courses and remediation  
21          courses;



- 1           (10) Emphasize online science, technology, engineering, and  
2           mathematics courses and aggressively work to offer  
3           certain online courses through the department,  
4           including algebra I, English I, eighth-grade math and  
5           English, and career guidance;
- 6           (11) Expand distance education through interactive digital  
7           television;
- 8           (12) Establish an online course and resource center to  
9           include training modules and other support resources;
- 10          (13) Establish online and in-person tutoring and mentoring  
11          programs for students, partnering with the University  
12          of Hawaii as needed; and
- 13          (14) Develop recommendations on appropriate funding  
14          mechanisms.

15 The department shall assess the digital literacy of teachers,  
16 students, and other personnel in order to ensure maximum success  
17 of the online learning programs. The above recommendations  
18 shall be implemented by the department in consultation with the  
19 full task force recommendations. The department shall  
20 systematically establish the infrastructure for online learning  
21 based on institution type, in the following order of priority:  
22 high schools (including charter high schools), middle and



1 elementary schools, adult community schools, charter middle and  
2 elementary schools, the University of Hawaii system  
3 (particularly the community colleges), private secondary and  
4 post-secondary institutions (for a fee), and adult populations  
5 for remedial education and upgrading of workforce skill.

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



**Report Title:**

DOE; Online Learning Task Force

**Description:**

Requires the department of education to implement recommendations of the online learning task force. (SD1)

