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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 our democratic  
2 process is based upon citizen participation. The founders of  
3 our nation agreed that democracy could only be maintained through  
4 an educated and informed citizenry. The legislature further  
5 finds that Hawaii school children should understand the  
6 electoral process and possess a sense of civic responsibility  
7 that will hopefully carry forward into adulthood. It is  
8 imperative to encourage and support educational programs that  
9 will educate Hawaii's youngest citizens about state government  
10 and the state legislative process. The legislature further  
11 finds that requiring the assessment and tracking of students'  
12 development of civic responsibility will enhance educational  
13 accountability.

14           The purpose of this Act is to:

15           (1) Establish a grant program in the department of  
16           education to develop K-12 lesson plans, curriculum,



1           and other educational materials on civic  
2           responsibility; and  
3       (2) Directly support the development of civic  
4           responsibility in students by appropriating funds for  
5           social studies textbooks; provided that each school  
6           complex provides a plan or makes a declaration to the  
7           department of education evidencing the importance of  
8           civic responsibility and lists the textbooks needed to  
9           educate students about civic responsibility; and  
10          provided further that the civic responsibility  
11          curriculum is aligned within the school complex.

12       SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13       amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14       and to read as follows:

15       **"§302A-    Civic responsibility education grant program.**

16       (a) The department shall develop and implement a grant program  
17       to encourage civic responsibility education in public schools.  
18       Expenditures shall be subject to the allotment and expenditure  
19       plan required under section 37-34.5.

20       (b) Grants shall be for the purposes of funding civic  
21       responsibility education lesson plans, curriculum, and other



1 related educational materials; provided that all materials shall  
2 be aligned within the school complex.

3 (c) The board shall establish and appoint the members of a  
4 grant award panel, which shall consist of at least one  
5 representative from each of the following groups:

6 (1) Parents;

7 (2) Students;

8 (3) Teachers;

9 (4) School administrators;

10 (5) School support staff;

11 (6) Businesspersons;

12 (7) The judiciary; and

13 (8) The military, whose participation shall be requested.

14 The panel shall also include a representative from each  
15 departmental school district among its members.

16 The panel shall review proposals and make recommendations  
17 to the superintendent on grant awards. Panel members shall  
18 serve for a term of two years without compensation, but shall be  
19 entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses, including  
20 travel expenses, incurred in the discharge of their official  
21 duties. A portion of the moneys appropriated for the grants,



1 not to exceed one per cent, shall be used to offset the expenses  
2 incurred by the review panel.

3 (d) The panel shall develop a process for submitting  
4 proposals.

5 (e) All proposals for civic responsibility education  
6 grants shall include:

7 (1) A clear statement of how the proposed program will  
8 achieve the goals of:

9 (A) Educating students on civic responsibility; and

10 (B) Aligning all proposed educational materials  
11 within the school complex;

12 (2) A method of evaluation to determine if the program has  
13 achieved its stated goals;

14 (3) A detailed budget and expenditure plan, which shall  
15 include any commitment of existing funds under the  
16 school or schools' allotment toward the proposed  
17 program; and

18 (4) Other criteria required by the panel.

19 (f) The panel shall assist the superintendent in the  
20 evaluation of all grant programs under this section on a  
21 continuing basis. If an approved program fails to meet the



1 requirements of its proposal, the panel shall recommend to the  
2 superintendent that funding for the grant shall be terminated.

3 (g) The superintendent shall submit a report to the  
4 legislature on the operations of the review panel at least  
5 twenty days before the convening of each regular session."

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
9 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
10 year 2008-2009, for the civic responsibility education grant  
11 program.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
13 of education for the purposes of this section.

14 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so  
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
17 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
18 year 2008-2009, to purchase social studies textbooks for  
19 schools; provided that each school complex provides a plan or  
20 makes a declaration to the department of education evidencing  
21 the importance of civic responsibility and lists the textbooks  
22 and other learning materials needed to educate students about



1 civic responsibility; and provided further that the civic  
2 responsibility curriculum is aligned within the school complex.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
4 of education for the purposes of this section.

5 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

6 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

Education; Civic Responsibility; Textbooks; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes a grant program in the department of education to develop K-12 lesson plans, curriculum, and other educational materials to promote civic responsibility. Appropriates funds to the department of education for the grant program and for social studies textbooks. (SD1)

