

JAN 18 2008

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the backlog of
2 repair and maintenance projects in public schools continues to
3 be of concern and that all means of addressing the problem
4 should be explored and supported.

5 The legislature finds that Hawaii 3R's, a private nonprofit
6 organization, has saved the State money by completing repair and
7 maintenance projects ordinarily completed with only state funds
8 and resources at public schools. Hawaii 3R's generates savings
9 for the State by leveraging state grant funds with federal
10 funds, private donations, and volunteerism or "sweat equity"
11 from various community organizations and businesses.

12 Since its inception in 2001, Hawaii 3R's has saved the
13 State over \$22 million. This figure is determined by taking the
14 State's estimated cost of the repair and maintenance projects
15 completed in Hawaii 3R's projects (\$25 million) and subtracting
16 the amount of state grant funds appropriated (\$2.9 million).
17 This means that for every State dollar invested in Hawaii 3R's,



1 over eight dollars worth of work is completed. It is also
2 noteworthy that Hawaii 3R's has statewide reach, with three
3 hundred sixty grants awarded to one hundred sixty-one different
4 schools on the islands of Oahu, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Kauai, and
5 Hawaii, including seven public charter schools.

6 The legislature also finds that the public-private
7 partnership between the State and Hawaii 3R's is effective and
8 essential to the success of the program. Specifically, the
9 legislature finds that the coordinator position within the
10 department of education provides Hawaii 3R's with expertise,
11 support, quick responses, and access to state resources and
12 information. The coordinator position also adds visibility and
13 positive media coverage to the efforts of the State.

14 The legislature acknowledges that Hawaii 3R's has built a
15 partnership with the Joint Venture Education Forum, a
16 partnership between the department of education and the United
17 States Pacific Command. This relationship benefits not only
18 military-impacted or military-partnered schools but all of
19 Hawaii's public schools through increased military partnerships.
20 Through the federal Joint Venture Education Forum funding,
21 Hawaii 3R's can provide grants to over one hundred military-
22 impacted, dependent, partnered schools.



1 The legislature is encouraged by the level of support that
2 the community has given to Hawaii 3R's and, more importantly, to
3 the public schools. Skilled and unskilled volunteer labor from
4 the military, civic clubs, churches, teachers, parents, and
5 students, combined with donations from community restaurants and
6 businesses, have all contributed to the success of Hawaii 3R's.
7 Also, trade unions and associations have been lending invaluable
8 support. Overall, over three thousand people have provided over
9 eleven thousand hours of volunteer labor.

10 The legislature understands that a new partnership will be
11 formed between Hawaii 3R's and the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii
12 and is excited by the opportunity to expand the resources
13 available to Hawaii 3R's through the one thousand, one hundred
14 member business of the Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. Such a
15 partnership is consistent with the legislature's long-standing
16 goal of creating and strengthening partnerships between schools
17 and businesses.

18 The legislature, however, encourages Hawaii 3R's to create
19 a system that will not only match up the resources of the
20 Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii's members with the needs of the
21 schools, but will be able to be expanded to include the entire



1 business community statewide. A centralized system would
2 greatly benefit the schools of Hawaii.

3 The legislature understands that as a new initiative, such
4 an undertaking will require additional resources above and
5 beyond any state funding that Hawaii 3R's currently receives or
6 is scheduled to receive for its repair and maintenance
7 activities.

8 Finally, the legislature finds that appropriating public
9 funds to Hawaii 3R's serves the public purpose of expediting the
10 repair and maintenance of Hawaii's public schools.

11 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
13 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 as a grant
14 pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to Hawaii
15 3R's.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
17 education through the Hawaii 3R's school repair and maintenance
18 fund for the purposes of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act, or the
20 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held
21 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or
22 applications of the Act, which can be given effect without the



1 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions
2 of this Act are severable.

3 SECTION 4. It is the intent of this Act not to jeopardize
4 the receipt of any federal aid nor to impair the obligations of
5 the State or any agency thereof to the holders of any bond
6 issued by the State or by any such agency, and to the extent,
7 and only to the extent, necessary to effectuate this intent, the
8 governor may modify the strict provisions of this Act, but shall
9 promptly report any such modification with reasons therefor to
10 the legislature at its next session thereafter for review by the
11 legislature.

12 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.
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Report Title:

DOE; Repair and Maintenance; Hawaii 3R's; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Hawaii 3R's to expedite repair and maintenance in the public schools.

