

JAN 17 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

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

1 SECTION 1. It is the State's duty to provide a proper
2 environment that is conducive to learning for its public school
3 students. However, although Hawaii has a tropical climate, many
4 of its public school facilities are not equipped with air
5 conditioning systems. Hawaii's climate can produce heated
6 classroom environments that are unbearable and that can hinder a
7 child's academic abilities.

8 The increasing cost of oil and the growing demand for
9 electricity make the promotion of energy efficiency and
10 renewable energy technology an important conservation
11 initiative. Currently, state law requires the State to
12 establish policies designed to increase energy self-sufficiency
13 and energy security, including the use of renewable energy
14 resources. Hawaii is blessed with an abundance of renewable
15 energy resources including wind, solar, hydropower, geothermal
16 energy, ocean thermal energy conversion, and wave energy.



1 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
2 education to develop a plan to provide air conditioning in all
3 public school facilities within ten years and to incorporate
4 energy conservation initiatives in public school facilities.

5 SECTION 2. (a) Notwithstanding section 302A-1501, Hawaii
6 Revised Statutes, the department of education shall develop a
7 plan to provide for air conditioning systems in all public
8 school facilities within ten years from the effective date of
9 this Act and to incorporate energy conservation initiatives in
10 public school facilities. The plan shall include
11 recommendations for the following:

12 (1) Financial mechanisms to fund the installation of air
13 conditioning systems in all public school facilities
14 within ten years;

15 (2) Providing for the implementation of energy efficient
16 lights, appliances, or other fixtures in all public
17 school facilities;

18 (3) Incorporating energy conservation initiatives
19 throughout public school facilities, including the use
20 of renewable energy resources; and

21 (4) Development of long-term plans to reduce usage or
22 costs, or both, related to electricity, gas, and



1 water, including the construction of new
2 infrastructures.

3 (b) The energy, resources, and technology division of the
4 department of business, economic development, and tourism shall
5 provide any necessary assistance to the department of education
6 in the development of the plan.

7 (c) The department of education shall submit a report on
8 the status of the plan to the legislature no later than twenty
9 days prior to the convening of the 2008 regular session, and
10 shall submit a final report and the plan to the legislature no
11 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2009
12 regular session.

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
16 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
17 year 2008-2009, for the department of education to develop a
18 plan to provide air conditioning systems for public school
19 facilities within ten years and to incorporate energy
20 conservation initiatives in public school facilities.

21 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
22 of education for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
2 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2007.
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Report Title:

Public School Facilities; Air Conditioning

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of education to develop a plan to provide air conditioning in all public school facilities within ten years and to incorporate energy conservation initiatives in public school facilities.

