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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO MAKE GRADES AND HOMEWORK AVAILABLE TO PARENTS ONLINE.

WHEREAS, studies have consistently found that parental involvement in their children's education is associated with higher grades and test scores, better attendance, more homework completion, more positive attitudes and behaviors, and higher graduation and college attendance rates; and

WHEREAS, transparency in grading and homework assignments serves students, teachers, and parents as an important assessment tool in identifying students' academic strengths and weaknesses; and

WHEREAS, currently, there are numerous online student performance programs available that are secure, efficient, and convenient and provide an array of services to help teachers store, organize, and report student progress; and

WHEREAS, for example Kalaheo High School is using one of the most widely heralded programs of this type, SnapGrades at a which allows a parent online access to their child's grades, grade point average attendance records and other data; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DOE) has readied the State's educational environment for increased learning technology with the success of programs such as E-school, Project EAST, and several robotics programs; and

WHEREAS, online student performance systems give parents access to their children's grades, homework assignments and attendance records enabling parents to better support and assist their children in achieving their academic goals; and

WHEREAS, online student performance systems increase communication among teachers, students, and parents, encouraging parents to be more involved in their children's academic progress; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that the Department of Education (DOE) is requested to make available an online student performance system for parents or guardians including but not limited to student grades, homework assignments and attendance records; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Schools, the Chair of the Board of Education, all PTSA's, and all School Community Based Management organizations in the State of Hawaii.

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