## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS IN THE SPECIAL NEEDS CATEGORY.

WHEREAS, students who are gifted and talented show potential for performing at high levels in intellectual, creative, or artistic areas, possess leadership capacity, or excel in specific academic fields; and

WHEREAS, gifted and talented children need to be challenged in a manner that matches their pace and level of learning; and

WHEREAS, a learning environment that does not meet the special needs of gifted and talented students can lead to apathy, boredom, and underachievement; and

WHEREAS, gifted and talented students often require services or activities that are not ordinarily provided by schools; and

WHEREAS, currently, an emphasis is often placed on meeting standards set by the federal No Child Left Behind Act, which focuses on all students meeting grade-level standards and does not include provisions for meeting the educational needs of gifted and talented students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, that the United States government is requested to recognize gifted and talented students in the category of special needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of Education, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, the

Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.

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