
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ATTORNEY POSITION TO REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF STUDENTS IN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING PROCEEDINGS THAT AFFECT THE NUMBER OF INSTRUCTIONAL DAYS AND HOURS OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

1 WHEREAS, the state budget deficit has resulted in some
2 public employee unions accepting furloughs; and

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4 WHEREAS, one union, the Hawaii State Teachers Association,
5 agreed to seventeen furlough days for the 2009-2010 school year;
6 and

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8 WHEREAS, on furlough days, teachers do not report to work
9 and there is no instruction for public school students in
10 Hawaii; and

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12 WHEREAS, the implementation of furloughs has caused the
13 number of instructional days for Hawaii public schools to be
14 reduced from one hundred eighty days per school year to one
15 hundred sixty-three, which is the lowest in the nation; and

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17 WHEREAS, the shorter school year puts the Hawaii public
18 school system at risk of losing accreditation from the Western
19 Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for
20 Schools and at risk of falling further behind in the No Child
21 Left Behind program and eighth grade reading and math scores;
22 and

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24 WHEREAS, the existing collective bargaining system, as it
25 applies to the public school system, does not adequately protect
26 the interests of the students that the Department of Education



1 is intended to serve; rather it negatively affects public
2 education by putting the concerns of adults before the needs of
3 students; and
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5 WHEREAS, an attorney who represents the interests of public
6 school students in collective bargaining proceedings that affect
7 the number of instructional days and hours offered by the
8 Department of Education would greatly benefit public school
9 students; now, therefore,
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
12 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
13 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference
14 Bureau is requested to conduct a study on the feasibility of
15 establishing an attorney position to represent, protect, and
16 advance the interests of all public school students in
17 collective bargaining proceedings that affect the number of
18 instructional days and hours offered by the Department of
19 Education; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
22 Bureau is requested to consider the qualifications, duties, and
23 responsibilities of the attorney position and the appropriate
24 salary for the position; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
27 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
28 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
29 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
30 the Regular Session of 2011; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the
34 Legislative Reference Bureau, the Chairperson of the Board of
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1 Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the President of
2 the Hawaii State Teachers Association.

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OFFERED BY:

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