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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CREATE POLICIES ALLOWING  
CHARTER SCHOOLS TO USE VACANT CLASSROOMS AND SCHOOLS THAT  
WILL BE CLOSED.

1 WHEREAS, the Board of Education has the power to formulate  
2 statewide educational policy pursuant to section 302A-1101,  
3 Hawaii Revised Statutes; and  
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5 WHEREAS, Act 14, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2008,  
6 required the Department of Education to submit annual reports  
7 identifying unused classrooms that would be suitable for  
8 conversion into early learning facilities; and  
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10 WHEREAS, as stated in a December 2009 report by the  
11 Department, eighty vacant classrooms have been identified as  
12 being available; and  
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14 WHEREAS, these classrooms are located in various public  
15 elementary and middle schools on Oahu, Maui, Hawaii, and Kauai,  
16 including Aliiolani School, Kalihi Kai School, Wahiawa Middle  
17 School, Waianae Intermediate School, Kailua Intermediate School,  
18 Kapaa Middle School, Haiku School, and Keaau Middle School; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the report also indicates that it would cost  
21 approximately \$7,204,000 to convert the eighty classrooms into  
22 early learning facilities; and  
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24 WHEREAS, Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 8, Chapter 38,  
25 provides conditions, procedures, and guidelines for the  
26 Department with respect to any efforts to consolidate schools;  
27 and  
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29 WHEREAS, the Department has established task forces to  
30 analyze and research school consolidations on Hawaii, Maui,  
31 Molokai, and Oahu, and has announced future plans to analyze and



1 research school consolidations in five different areas on Oahu;  
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, the Board voted on May 1, 2009, to consolidate  
5 Wailupe Valley School into Aina Haina School; and

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7 WHEREAS, the facilities formerly used by Wailupe Valley  
8 School remain unused today; and

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10 WHEREAS, schools that are closed due to consolidation are  
11 at risk of being removed from the Department's authority; and

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13 WHEREAS, there is an increased demand for charter school  
14 education but a lack of facilities: there were over 2,800  
15 students on waitlists who were unable to enroll in charter  
16 schools for the 2008-2009 school year due to a lack of capacity  
17 in existing facilities, according to the Charter School  
18 Administrative Office; and

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20 WHEREAS, some charter schools do not have conventional  
21 classrooms and must use tents, shipping containers, trailers,  
22 and other makeshift structures as classrooms; and

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24 WHEREAS, the need for charter school facilities is as  
25 important as the need for early learning facilities; and

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27 WHEREAS, although some of the eighty vacant classrooms may  
28 not be located in areas where early learning facilities are in  
29 demand, they may be appropriate locations for charter schools;  
30 and

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32 WHEREAS, the cost of converting vacant classrooms into  
33 charter school classrooms is likely to be less than the cost of  
34 converting them into early learning facilities; now, therefore,

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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
37 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
38 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Board is requested to  
39 develop policies to allot a portion of the existing eighty  
40 vacant classrooms for use by charter schools; and

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42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board is requested to  
43 develop policies that allow public schools that are closed to



1 remain as facilities available for use by charter schools or for  
2 other educational purposes; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests a  
5 list of vacant classrooms and schools that have recently been  
6 closed or are to be closed to be provided to the Twenty-fifth  
7 Legislature before its adjournment on April 29, 2010; and

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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board submit a report  
10 summarizing the aforementioned policies to the Legislature no  
11 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular  
12 Session of 2011; and

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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
16 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and Executive  
17 Director of the Charter School Administrative Office.

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