

MAR 04 2010

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING RESEARCH AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A POLICY GROUP TO
INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S DETERMINATION OF ITS
CORE MISSION AND CORE FUNCTIONS.

1 WHEREAS, especially in times of economic downturn when
2 public funding must be channeled toward the most essential
3 services and programs, a determination of the priorities of a
4 public agency can provide meaningful guidance to policy makers
5 and public leaders as they make difficult decisions about which
6 services and programs to fund and not fund; and
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8 WHEREAS, the Department of Education, legislators, the
9 Governor, and the general public seem to lack a clear, agreed-
10 upon understanding or determination of the Department's core
11 mission and core functions; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Department of Education's lack of a core
14 mission and core functions makes it difficult to distinguish the
15 essential duties and responsibilities of the Department and the
16 public school system from the elements that are beneficial but
17 perhaps not as necessary; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the Department of
20 Education, in consultation with the Board of Education, should
21 develop or determine, with the advice and cooperation of other
22 agencies, organizations, and the public, its core mission and
23 core functions to more easily justify or assess the need for the
24 programs and services that it provides; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Legislature further finds that in order for
27 the Department of Education to determine its core mission and
28 core functions, it requires better information, input, and
29 examples on a suitable process for identifying what its core
30 mission and core functions should be or should include; now,
31 therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative
4 Reference Bureau is requested to perform research on the core
5 mission and core functions of other school districts, and to
6 provide information on the process by which other school
7 districts have determined their respective core mission and core
8 functions, whether through statutory mandates, strategic
9 planning initiatives, public input, or other means; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Educational Policy
12 Center is requested to convene a policy group to recommend a
13 suitable process by which the Department of Education may
14 determine its core mission and core functions; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the process developed by the
17 policy group also allow the Department to rank or classify the
18 Department's programs and services by the extent to which those
19 programs and services accomplish the Department's determined
20 core mission and core functions; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the policy group consist of the
23 following members:

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25 (1) Two Hawaii teachers who are recipients of the Milken
26 Educator Award appointed by the Director of the Hawaii
27 Educational Policy Center;
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29 (2) Two Hawaii principals who are recipients of the Milken
30 Educator Award appointed by the Director of the Hawaii
31 Educational Policy Center;
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33 (3) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of
34 Representatives;
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36 (4) One member appointed by the Senate President;
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38 (5) One member appointed by the Governor;
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40 (6) Two members appointed by the Superintendent of
41 Education;
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43 (7) Two members appointed by the Teacher Education
44 Coordinating Committee; and



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(8) One member appointed by the Board of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the policy group submit its findings and recommendations, including recommended legislation, to the Legislative Reference Bureau; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to consider the findings and recommendations of the policy group, along with its research performed pursuant to this concurrent resolution, and submit its own recommendation of a suitable process by which the Department of Education may:

(1) Determine the Department's core mission and core functions; and

(2) Rank or classify the Department's programs and services by the extent to which those programs and services accomplish the Department's determined core mission and core functions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to report its findings and recommendations, including recommended legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Senate President, Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Superintendent of Education, Chairperson of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee, and Chairperson of the Board of Education.

OFFERED BY: Norman Sakom
Shiranne Chun Oakland
[Signature]
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