

MAR 10 2010

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE ACADEMIC CREDIT OR SOME  
OTHER INCENTIVE OR PENALTY TO MOTIVATE STUDENTS TO TAKE THE  
ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS TESTS SERIOUSLY.

1           WHEREAS, the Department of Education administers the  
2 Adequate Yearly Progress tests for public school students  
3 pursuant to the federal No Child Left Behind program; and  
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5           WHEREAS, under the No Child Left Behind program, each state  
6 is required to define "adequate yearly progress" for its  
7 students and to determine and quantify the progress that will be  
8 made in student achievement annually until 2014, when all  
9 students must reach a definable level of academic proficiency;  
10 and  
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12           WHEREAS, if a school fails to achieve academic proficiency,  
13 the school is then subject to technical assistance but must  
14 allow students to transfer to another school if the student so  
15 chooses; and  
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17           WHEREAS, the longer a school fails to reach proficiency,  
18 sanctions against the school become progressively more severe  
19 until the school is taken-over by the State; and  
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21           WHEREAS, it is imperative that students take the Adequate  
22 Yearly Progress tests seriously to prevent the imposition of  
23 sanctions that could disrupt the administration of public  
24 schools; and  
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26           WHEREAS, anecdotal information from students and teachers  
27 suggests that students do not appear to be taking the Adequate  
28 Yearly Progress tests seriously; and  
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30           WHEREAS, reports of students misusing their answer bubbles  
31 on the test by strategically connecting the bubbles to create a



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1 picture or message strongly suggests that some students do not  
2 appreciate the consequences of their actions; and  
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4 WHEREAS, some students intentionally perform poorly in  
5 order to reflect negatively on teachers they do not like; and  
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7 WHEREAS, there does not appear to be any incentive for  
8 students to do well or penalty for doing poorly; and  
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10 WHEREAS, generally, students are of the opinion that  
11 anywhere from twenty-five to fifty per cent of the students  
12 taking the test do not do so seriously; now, therefore,  
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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth  
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the  
16 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education  
17 is urged to provide academic credit or penalty to motivate  
18 students to take the Adequate Yearly Progress tests seriously;  
19 and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the  
23 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of  
24 Education.  
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26  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jim', is written over a horizontal line.