

MAR 10 2010

S.R. NO. 110

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

