
HOUSE 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, the No Child Left Behind program requires each
6 state to define "adequate yearly progress" for its students and
7 to determine and quantify the progress that will be made in
8 student achievement annually until 2014, when all students must
9 reach a definable level of academic proficiency; and
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11 WHEREAS, if a school fails to achieve academic proficiency,
12 the school is then subject to technical assistance but must
13 allow students to transfer to another school if the student so
14 chooses; and
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16 WHEREAS, the longer a school fails to reach proficiency,
17 sanctions against the school become progressively more severe
18 until the school is taken-over by the State; and
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20 WHEREAS, it is imperative that students take the Adequate
21 Yearly Progress tests seriously to prevent the imposition of
22 sanctions that could disrupt the administration of public
23 schools; and
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25 WHEREAS, anecdotal information from students and teachers
26 suggests that students do not appear to be taking the Adequate
27 Yearly Progress tests seriously; and
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29 WHEREAS, reports of students misusing their answer bubbles
30 on the tests by strategically connecting the bubbles to create a
31 picture or message strongly suggests that some students do not
32 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 on the Adequate Yearly Progress tests or
6 penalty for doing poorly; and
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8 WHEREAS, generally, students are of the opinion that
9 anywhere from twenty-five to fifty per cent of the students
10 taking the test do not do so seriously; now, therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
13 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
14 of 2011, that the Board of Education is urged to provide
15 academic credit or some other incentive or penalty to motivate
16 students to take the Adequate Yearly Progress tests seriously;
17 and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chairperson of
21 the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

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