

MAR 16 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING A COMPREHENSIVE FINANCIAL AND MANAGEMENT AUDIT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S OPERATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, there have been numerous legislative measures
2 passed and other actions taken to help improve Hawaii's failing
3 public school system; and
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5 WHEREAS, a child enrolled in Hawaii's public school system
6 is just as capable of achieving educational success as any other
7 child enrolled in any other public school system in this nation;
8 and
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10 WHEREAS, Hawaii's public school teachers are just as
11 proficient and capable as other public school teachers in the
12 nation; and
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14 WHEREAS, the Department of Education, in 2010, received a
15 quarter of the State's general fund appropriations, the largest
16 of any state agency; and
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18 WHEREAS, The Department of Education's funding in 2008 was
19 over \$2.5 billion. In 2009, it was almost \$2.6 billion. During
20 the recession in 2010, it was well over \$2.4 billion; and
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22 WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Superintendent's 21ST Annual
23 Report, per student costs continued to increase from \$8,997 per
24 student in 2005, to \$9,876 per student in 2006, to \$11,060 per
25 student in 2007; and
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27 WHEREAS, according to the Superintendent's Report, the
28 national assessment of student progress in targeted grade levels
29 confirms that many Hawaii public school students generally score
30 below the national average in reading and mathematics; and
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32 WHEREAS, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent
33 accounting firm, said in a 2005 audit of Department of Education



1 are denied potentially valuable information, and some may be
2 basing their fiscal decisions on flawed data;" and

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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Education's last comprehensive
5 audit of the entire organization, management processes, and
6 personnel administration happened thirty-eight years ago, in
7 1973; and

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9 WHEREAS, the Department of Education's spending,
10 administrative, and managerial practices need to be reviewed and
11 resolved before an increase in funding from the Legislature is
12 warranted; now, therefore,

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14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
16 House of Representatives concurring, that the Office of the
17 Auditor conduct a comprehensive financial and management audit
18 of the Department of Education; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the results of the Office of
21 the Auditor's audit of the Department of Education, along with
22 findings and recommendations, be reported to the Hawaii State
23 Legislature and the governor at least twenty days prior to the
24 beginning of the 2012 legislative session; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Office of the
28 Auditor, the Department of Education, and the Board of
29 Education.

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32 OFFERED BY:




