

MAR 16 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO SUPPORT THE
REAUTHORIZATION OF THE NATIVE HAWAIIAN EDUCATION ACT.

1 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian Education Act was preceded by
2 legislation in the Augustus F. Hawkins-Robert Stafford
3 Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988,
4 to authorize and develop supplemental educational programs to
5 address the unique conditions of Native Hawaiians; and
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7 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian Education Act was first
8 enacted under the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994,
9 reauthorized under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and is
10 slated to be reauthorized under the Blueprint for Reform of the
11 Elementary and Secondary Education Act; and
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13 WHEREAS, the Native Hawaiian Education Act's findings
14 established declarations that have been cited in significant
15 legal decisions concerning Native Hawaiians; and
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17 WHEREAS, the first demonstration program to provide higher
18 education fellowship assistance to Native Hawaiians has resulted
19 in increased scholarships for Native Hawaiians; and
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21 WHEREAS, the first demonstration program to develop family-
22 based education centers throughout the Hawaiian islands resulted
23 in the growth of 'Aha Punana Leo preschools statewide to further
24 meet the needs of families desiring to perpetuate the Hawaiian
25 language as a living language; and
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27 WHEREAS, the first demonstration program to establish the
28 Center for Gifted and Talented Native Hawaiian Children at the
29 University of Hawai'i at Hilo resulted in the growth of the Na
30 Pua No'eau program statewide to further meet the special needs of
31 gifted and talented Hawaiian students; and
32



1 WHEREAS, the first demonstration program authorized grants
 2 to address the special education needs of Native Hawaiian
 3 students and those grants resulted in exemplary programs such as
 4 Pihana Na Mamo that assisted special needs Native Hawaiian
 5 students at succeeding in school; and

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 7 WHEREAS, subsequent grants by the United States Secretary
 8 of Education under the Native Hawaiian Education Act have
 9 resulted in an increase in Native Hawaiian language curriculum
 10 development and indigenous teacher preparation programs,
 11 community-based education learning centers, and the
 12 establishment of the Native Hawaiian Education Council and
 13 island councils; and

14
 15 WHEREAS, President Obama has reaffirmed his
 16 Administration's commitment to Native Hawaiian education through
 17 the federal fiscal year 2012 budget request and the Blueprint
 18 for Reform of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act; and

19
 20 WHEREAS, the policies of the Native Hawaiian Education Act,
 21 as contained in the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and
 22 incorporated in the Blueprint for Reform of the Elementary and
 23 Secondary Education Act, will also be considered for
 24 reauthorization; now, therefore,

25
 26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
 27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
 28 House of Representatives concurring, that Hawaii's congressional
 29 delegation is urged to support the reauthorization of the
 30 policies of the Native Hawaiian Education Act; and

31
 32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's Congressional
 34 Delegation, Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Office of
 35 Hawaiian Affairs.

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J. L. Gill
Michelle Kahan

OFFERED BY:

[Signature]
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M. M. Iliu