

MAR 03 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO DEFER DECISION-MAKING ON THE
CLOSURE OF PUUHALE AND KALIHI ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS UNTIL THE
NEW MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION ARE APPOINTED BY THE
GOVERNOR AND SEATED.

1 WHEREAS, in November 2010, Hawaii voters approved a
2 constitutional amendment that authorized the Governor to appoint
3 members of the Board of Education; and
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5 WHEREAS; the Legislature is currently holding hearings on
6 measures that would determine an appropriate transition process
7 from an elected Board of Education to an appointed Board of
8 Education; and
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10 WHEREAS, the current members of the Board of Education
11 remain in their position only until the appropriate transition
12 process is determined by the Legislature and approved and
13 executed by the Governor; and
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15 WHEREAS, the current elected members of the Board of
16 Education will not necessarily be the same members that will
17 constitute the upcoming appointed members of the Board of
18 Education; and
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20 WHEREAS, the occurrence of the transition from an elected
21 Board of Education to an appointed Board of Education is
22 imminent; and
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24 WHEREAS, very important decisions continue to be placed
25 before the elected members of the Board of Education, including
26 whether to close Puuhale and Kalihi Elementary Schools; and
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28 WHEREAS, Puuhale and Kalihi Elementary Schools are
29 community fixtures, and places of pride and fond memories for
30 the, students, alumni, and residents of Kalihi; and



1 WHEREAS, Puuhale and Kalihi Elementary Schools are truly
2 neighborhood schools where 70 and 95 percent of the students,
3 respectively, actually reside in the district area of the
4 schools, in contrast to other schools with a much lower
5 percentage of district area students; and

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7 WHEREAS, the proposed economic savings to the State by
8 virtue of closing Puuhale and Kalihi Elementary Schools are
9 uncertain; much of the projected savings will ultimately become
10 expenses to the other schools that receive the students
11 displaced from Puuhale and Kalihi Elementary Schools; now,
12 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 current Board of
17 Education is requested to defer decision-making on whether to
18 close Puuhale and Kalihi Elementary Schools until the new Board
19 of Education is appointed by the Governor and seated; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
23 Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY: *Anzanne Chun Oakland*
 Anna Mercedes K.
 [Signature]
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