

MAR 10 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ON THE
FEASIBILITY OF HOLDING INTRA- AND INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS
ON THE SUBJECT OF SUSTAINABILITY.

1 WHEREAS, as an island state, Hawaii faces difficult
2 challenges in the area of sustainability; and

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4 WHEREAS, the problems related to sustainability are varied
5 and complex; and

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7 WHEREAS, complex and multi-faceted problems are best solved
8 when a multitude of people, minds, and ideas are engaged in
9 deriving solutions; and

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11 WHEREAS, problem-solving may often be more effective when
12 the ideas come from young minds with fresh ideas that are not
13 clouded by a myriad of previously proposed solutions; and

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15 WHEREAS, competition is a proven method of inspiring
16 innovation and new ideas; and

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18 WHEREAS, Hawaii's public school students are an excellent
19 resource for innovative ideas and problem solving; and

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21 WHEREAS, the students are already familiar with the basic
22 sustainability framework of the three R's - reduce, reuse, and
23 recycle; and

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25 WHEREAS, the basic idea of the three R's is an excellent
26 topic and starting point for a series of competitions designed
27 to inspire students to develop creative ideas toward solving the
28 complex issues regarding sustainability in Hawaii; and

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30 WHEREAS, sustainability competitions are being held in
31 schools in Nevada, New Jersey, England, and Australia and on the
32 national level in the United States; and

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34 WHEREAS, school competitions related to formulating ideas
35 to achieve sustainability will not only increase the awareness



1 and knowledge of sustainability issues among the students but
2 also lead to the formation of real solutions that can be
3 employed to lead the State toward a sustainable future; now,
4 therefore,

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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,
8 that the Department of Education is requested to study the
9 feasibility of creating and implementing intra- and inter-school
10 competitions in the three R's of sustainability - reduce, reuse,
11 and recycle; and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report to the Legislature
14 regarding the feasibility of creating and implementing intra-
15 and inter-school competitions in the three R's of sustainability
16 be submitted no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
17 the Regular Session of 2012; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
21 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Executive Director of the
22 Charter School Administrative Office, all Complex Area
23 Superintendents, and all public school principals.

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26 OFFERED BY: Mike Gabboni