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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ACCEPT THE  
NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED ACT COLLEGE ADMISSION EXAM RESULTS  
FOR DETERMINING IF A SCHOOL IS MEETING "NO CHILD LEFT  
BEHIND" COMPLIANCE.

1           WHEREAS, the ACT College Admission Exam is a national  
2 college admission and placement exam in English, math, reading,  
3 and science that is administered in all 50 states in the United  
4 States including 22 percent of students in schools in the State  
5 of Hawaii; and  
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7           WHEREAS, the ACT College Admission Exam is recognized as  
8 being a curriculum-based examination rather than an aptitude  
9 test that directly relates to the content of what high school  
10 students should be taught and provides students, their teachers,  
11 and career counselors with a comprehensive profile of a  
12 student's work; and  
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14           WHEREAS, Hawaii has been awarded competitive Race to the  
15 Top Federal Grant funds in the amount of \$75 million to address  
16 poor performing schools and has committed to a goal of ensuring  
17 all Hawaii high school graduates are college and career ready  
18 by school year 2017-2018; and  
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20           WHEREAS, as part of the Race to the Top obligations, the  
21 State has committed to adopting the Common Core Curriculum in  
22 math, English, and science being developed by the National  
23 Governors Association in conjunction with the National  
24 Association of Superintendents of Schools; and  
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26           WHEREAS, teachers and counselors who administer the Hawaii  
27 State Assessment indicate that the costs of administering the  
28 tests are high and the test results are not sufficiently timely  
29 to provide feedback to teachers to adjust their lesson plans or



1 for students to identify areas where they may need additional  
2 study or tutoring; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Assessment requires a significant  
5 expenditure of student learning time and teaching time to be  
6 used for test preparation; and  
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8 WHEREAS, the ACT College Admission Exam is recognized and  
9 accepted as a college entrance examination by colleges and  
10 universities throughout the United States; the costs of taking  
11 the exam are relatively minor; and the results are available  
12 promptly for teachers, counselors, and students to use to adjust  
13 their instruction, counseling, and learning patterns; now,  
14 therefore,  
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
17 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
18 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that a letter be prepared by the  
19 Superintendent of Education to the United States Department of  
20 Education and the United States Congress asking that states be  
21 allowed to accept ACT as a benchmark for determining compliance  
22 by school districts for applicable grade levels with the  
23 requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
26 requested to review:  
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28 (1) Whether the ACT College Admission Exam will be an  
29 appropriate substitution for the Hawaii State  
30 Assessment, including determining appropriate grade  
31 levels for administration; and  
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33 (2) Any costs that may be associated with administering  
34 the ACT College Admission Exam at various schools;  
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36 and  
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
39 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,  
40 Chairperson of the State Board of Education, Superintendent of  
41 Education, members of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation,  
42 United States Secretary of Education, and Principals of each  
43 public high school in the State.

