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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DETERMINE WHETHER  
CHILDREN OF FAMILIES RECEIVING TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR  
NEEDY FAMILIES FEDERAL FUNDS HAVE A HIGHER RATE OF TRUANCY.

1           WHEREAS, temporary assistance for needy families (TANF)  
2 funds are federal block grants that provide states, territories,  
3 and tribes with federal funds each year to cover benefits,  
4 administrative expenses, and services for low-income families;  
5 and  
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7           WHEREAS, the TANF block grant is administered by state,  
8 territorial, and tribal agencies that provide assistance and  
9 work opportunities to low-income families through welfare  
10 programs that promote employment, responsibility, and self-  
11 sufficiency; and  
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13           WHEREAS, education is a key method for families to improve  
14 their financial situation and attain self-sufficiency; and  
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16           WHEREAS, encouraging the education of children from  
17 households that receive TANF funds promotes the goals of the  
18 TANF program and serves an important educational purpose; now,  
19 therefore,  
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21           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
22 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
23 of 2011, that the Department of Education, with assistance from  
24 the Department of Human Services, is requested to determine  
25 whether children of families receiving TANF funds have a higher  
26 rate of truancy or excessive absenteeism from school and to make  
27 recommendations to address this issue; and  
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29           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
30 requested to consider programs designed to encourage or ensure  
31 school attendance for children who live in households that  
32 receive TANF funding; and  
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# H.R. NO. 199

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
 2 requested to submit a report of its findings and  
 3 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
 4 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
 5 the Regular Session of 2012; and

6  
 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 8 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Human Services, the  
 9 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and the Superintendent of  
 10 Education.

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OFFERED BY:

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*Karen Arana*  


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