
HOUSE 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
30 for students to identify areas where they may need additional
31 study or tutoring; and



1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Assessment requires a significant
2 expenditure of student learning time and teaching time to be
3 used for test preparation; and
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5 WHEREAS, the ACT College Admission Exam is recognized and
6 accepted as a college entrance examination by colleges and
7 universities throughout the United States; the costs of taking
8 the exam are relatively minor; and the results are available
9 promptly for teachers, counselors, and students to use to adjust
10 their instruction, counseling, and learning patterns; now,
11 therefore,
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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
15 of 2011, that a letter be prepared by the Superintendent of
16 Education to the United States Department of Education and the
17 United States Congress asking that states be allowed to accept
18 ACT as a benchmark for determining compliance by school
19 districts for applicable grade levels with the requirements of
20 the federal No Child Left Behind Act; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
23 requested to review:
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- 25 (1) Whether the ACT College Admission Exam will be an
26 appropriate substitution for the Hawaii State
27 Assessment, including determining appropriate grade
28 levels for administration; and
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- 30 (2) Any costs that may be associated with administering
31 the ACT College Admission Exam at various schools;
32

33 and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
37 State Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, members
38 of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation, United States Secretary
39 of Education, and Principals of each public high school in the
40 State.

