
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONSIDER UTILIZING PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES FACING CLOSURE AND REUTILIZING VACANT PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES TO SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO KUPUNA-RELATED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, THEREBY AVOIDING UNDERUTILIZATION AND POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Board of Education and Department of Education
2 are charged with determining whether certain public schools in
3 the State should be closed or otherwise consolidated; and
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5 WHEREAS, the procedures for closure and consolidation of
6 public schools require the Superintendent of Education to
7 appoint a task force to study the possible consolidation and
8 make a report and recommendation to the Board of Education; and
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10 WHEREAS, pursuant to section 302A-1151.5, Hawaii Revised
11 Statutes, the Department of Education is already required to
12 give reasonable consideration to making public school facilities
13 available to charter schools when the Department considers
14 closing any particular public school; and
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16 WHEREAS, rather than closing schools based upon low student
17 enrollment, portions of these schools could be repurposed to
18 serve the community in other ways; and
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20 WHEREAS, public school facilities being considered for
21 closure and vacant public school facilities could be used for
22 community services such as aging and disability resource
23 centers, senior centers, and other kupuna-related programs; now,
24 therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012, the
28 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education



1 and Department of Education are encouraged to consider utilizing
2 public school facilities facing closure and reutilizing vacant
3 public school facilities to support the needs of the community,
4 including but not limited to kupuna-related programs and
5 services, thereby avoiding underutilization and possible closure
6 of public school facilities; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and
9 Department of Education are encouraged to consider a flexible
10 policy that allows school campuses to be better utilized based
11 on the changing demographics and needs of the community; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and
14 Department of Education are encouraged to consult with the
15 neighborhood boards and other community organizations to
16 identify opportunities to use all or a portion of public school
17 facilities for services and programs that benefit the community;
18 and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
22 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, Executive
23 Secretary of the Neighborhood Commission Office, and Director of
24 the Executive Office on Aging.

