HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, AS PART OF ITS DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPREHENSIVE HAWAIIAN STUDIES PROGRAM, TO CREATE A COALITION TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF DEVELOPING ASSESSMENTS REQUIRED BY THE NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF 2001 IN THE HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE FOR HAWAIIAN LANGUAGE IMMERSION STUDENTS TO MORE ACCURATELY MEASURE THEIR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT.

1   WHEREAS, the Hawaiian language was once a thriving language
2 used by Native Hawaiians and foreigners alike; and
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4   WHEREAS, by the late twentieth century, the Hawaiian
5 language was pushed to the brink of extinction due to a number
6 of factors, including an 1896 law that functioned to ban the
7 speaking of the Hawaiian language in Hawaii's schools; and
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9   WHEREAS, the Hawaiian language was saved by several
10 historic initiatives, including the Department of Education's
11 Hawaiian language immersion program, which was launched in the
12 1980s; and
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14   WHEREAS, today, the Hawaiian language immersion program is
15 offered at twenty-one public schools and educates more than two
16 thousand students in kindergarten through the twelfth grade; and
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18   WHEREAS, the assessments required by the No Child Left
19 Behind Act of 2001 (No Child Left Behind) present a challenge
20 for the Hawaiian immersion program; and
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22   WHEREAS, because English is not formally introduced in the
23 Hawaiian immersion program classrooms until the fifth grade,
24 third and fourth graders take assessments in the Hawaiian
25 language to comply with the requirements of No Child Left
26 Behind; and
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1   WHEREAS, the Department of Education must provide the
2 students with an assessment system that more accurately measures
3 their academic achievement; and
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5   WHEREAS, the Legislature is aware that the Board of
6 Education is currently reviewing issues regarding assessments as
7 part of its development of a comprehensive Hawaiian studies
8 program within Hawaii's public school system; now, therefore,
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10   BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Board of
13 Education is requested, as part of its development of a
14 comprehensive Hawaiian studies program, to create a coalition to
15 address the issue of developing assessments required by the No
16 Child Left Behind Act of 2001 in the Hawaiian language for
17 Hawaiian language immersion students to more accurately measure
18 their academic achievement; and
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20   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the coalition created by the
21 Board of Education is requested to address the development of
22 grade-specific assessments in the Hawaiian language in language
23 arts, mathematics, and science to be administered to students in
24 the Hawaiian language immersion program; and
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26   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the coalition include but not
27 be limited to representatives from:
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29   (1) Hawaiian language immersion schools;
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31   (2) The University of Hawaii System;
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33   (3) The Office of Hawaiian Affairs;
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35   (4) Kamehameha Schools; and
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37   (5) Any other entity or organization the Board of
38   Education deems relevant; and
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40   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education is
41 requested to report the findings and recommendations of the
42 coalition to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to
43 the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; provided that the
44 Board of Education is requested to include in its report:

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2   (1)   A timeline for when specific grade levels will be able
3   to take assessments in language arts, mathematics, and
4   science in the Hawaiian language;
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6   (2)   Any proposed legislation; and
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8   (3)   Any requests for necessary funding; and
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10   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
11 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
12 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of
13 Education, President of the University of Hawaii System, Chief
14 Executive Officer of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and Chief
15 Executive Officer of Kamehameha Schools.
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OFFERED BY: _____

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