## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON FAMILY SCHOOL LEAVE.

WHEREAS, it is crucial for parents to be involved in their children's education, in the school and in the home; and

WHEREAS, there is evidence that parent involvement improves student achievement, and students whose parents are involved in their education have better grades, test scores, long-term academic achievement, attitudes, and behavior; and

WHEREAS, with the constant demands placed on working families and the need to promote stability and economic security in the home, both parents should have the option of taking leave from their employment for purposes related to their children's education; and

WHEREAS, currently, twelve states require employers to allow time for employees to participate in their children's educational activities; and

WHEREAS, California is amongst the most progressive states, giving parents who work for businesses with twenty-five or more employees up to forty hours per year to participate in school activities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on family school leave; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to examine the feasibility and potential impact of requiring employers to allow parents and guardians of

school-aged children to take leave from their employment to participate in their children's educational activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as part of the study, the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to:

(1) Research other state's laws that allow for family school leave so that parents and guardians of schoolaged children may participate in their children's educational activities;

(2) Work with the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, and interested stakeholders, including but not limited to the Hui for Excellence in Education and Hawaii Parent Teacher Student Association, on examining the impacts of requiring employers to allow parents and guardians of young children to take leave from their employment to participate in their children's educational activities;

(3) Make a recommendation as to whether requiring employers to allow parents and guardians of young children to take leave from their employment to participate in their children's educational activities is feasible in Hawaii, and if so, make a recommendation as to:

(A) The minimum number of employees an employer must employ to be required to provide family school leave; and

(B) The number of hours of annual family school leave an employer should be required to provide; and

(4) Propose relevant legislation, if appropriate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Acting Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, Director of Labor and Industrial Relations, President of The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Hui for Excellence in Education, and Hawaii Parent Teacher Student Association.

OFFERED BY: Jakashi Omo

MAR 1 2 2013