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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING AN IMPACT RESEARCH STUDY OF THE EFFECT OF THE  
WEIGHTED STUDENT FORMULA ON ALLOCATIONS OF APPROPRIATED  
MONEYS TO SMALL PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1           WHEREAS, moneys appropriated to the Department of Education  
2 are allocated to the public schools through the use of a  
3 weighted student formula that takes into account the educational  
4 needs of each student; and

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6           WHEREAS, the weighted student formula is developed by the  
7 Committee on Weights, which is chaired by the Superintendent of  
8 Education and is tasked with creating a system of weights based  
9 upon student characteristics that may be applied to determine  
10 the relative cost of educating any student; and

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12           WHEREAS, the Committee on Weights also determines which  
13 moneys shall be included in the amount of funds to be allocated  
14 through the weighted student formula; and

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16           WHEREAS, the Committee on Weights typically meets during  
17 the spring and summer to develop recommended revisions to the  
18 weighted student formula, and these meetings allow the committee  
19 members to become familiar with issues such as the student  
20 characteristics impacting educational cost and existing types of  
21 funds currently used to support student learning; and

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23           WHEREAS, due to the use of the weighted student formula,  
24 some schools gain funds and others receive less funds than would  
25 otherwise be available through a more traditional allocation  
26 methodology; and

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28           WHEREAS, it appears that the use of the weighted student  
29 formula may work to the disadvantage of small public schools,  
30 which may cover a wider spectrum of school grade levels than the  
31 larger schools, whose teachers may teach more than one grade



1 level, and whose administrators may also serve as teachers; now,  
2 therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
5 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
6 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative  
7 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct an impact research  
8 study of the effect of the student weighted formula on the  
9 allocations of appropriated moneys to small public schools; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the impact research study is  
12 requested to address:

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14 (1) Whether the budgetary needs of small public schools  
15 are being adequately met through the student weighted  
16 formula; and

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18 (2) Whether the budgetary needs of small public schools  
19 would be better served through the use of a different  
20 allocation methodology; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference  
23 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and  
24 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
25 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
26 the Regular Session of 2014; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
30 Legislative Reference Bureau, the Superintendent of Education,  
31 and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.

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OFFERED BY:

Mele Cannon

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