
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT TEACHERS HAVE
HIGH-QUALITY CURRICULUM AND CURRICULAR MATERIALS IN ENGLISH
LANGUAGE ARTS AND MATH THAT ARE ALIGNED WITH THE COMMON
CORE STATE STANDARDS.

1 WHEREAS, the Common Core State Standards and the Smarter
2 Balanced Assessments, adopted by the Board of Education, are
3 critical systems for guiding high-quality instruction and
4 measuring student preparation for success in college and
5 careers; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Department of Education is providing
8 professional development and resources to teachers to build
9 understanding of the new standards and assessments and prepare
10 educators to provide instruction based on the Common Core State
11 Standards; and

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13 WHEREAS, effective instruction has the greatest impact on
14 student achievement, and research from the State Education
15 Technology Directors Association and the Alliance for Excellent
16 Education shows that technology greatly supports teachers'
17 ability to personalize learning for all students and support
18 special student learning needs; and

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20 WHEREAS, a 2013 survey of Advanced Placement and National
21 Writing Project teachers, conducted by the Pew Research Center,
22 found that 84 percent of teachers surveyed use the Internet at
23 least weekly to find content that will engage students and 92
24 percent say the Internet has a major impact on their ability to
25 access content, resources, and materials for their teaching; and



1 WHEREAS, student success in the 21st century requires that
2 students be able to use technology thoughtfully to enhance their
3 reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills; and
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5 WHEREAS, students today are digital natives who interact
6 with and are accustomed to digital technologies, and technology
7 accelerates opportunities to engage students through innovative
8 courses, instructional strategies, and curriculum pertinent to
9 their lives; and
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11 WHEREAS, students whose teachers asked them to use
12 computers more frequently to draft and revise their writing
13 performed 5 to 19 points higher on the 2011 National Assessment
14 of Educational Progress (NAEP) writing assessment; and
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16 WHEREAS, of the eighth- and twelfth-grade students who
17 scored around the 75th percentile on the NAEP writing exam, 99
18 percent had a computer at home; and
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20 WHEREAS, research from the Alliance for Excellent Education
21 found that students most frequently drop out of school because
22 of a lack of interest in classes and a feeling that classwork is
23 irrelevant to their lives; and
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25 WHEREAS, all students deserve to have a high-quality
26 education, but not all students have equitable access to high-
27 quality, rigorous curricular materials and technology in and out
28 of school; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
32 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
33 Education is urged to ensure that teachers have high-quality
34 curriculum and curricular materials in English language arts and
35 math that are aligned with the Common Core State Standards, as
36 well as the support and tools to integrate technology in their
37 instruction to effectively engage students in learning; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
40 urged to implement strategies to ensure that all students have
41 access to devices that allow them to use digital curricular
42 materials in the classroom as a baseline for success; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
3 Education and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.
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OFFERED BY: *T. Blah*

MAR 13 2013

