
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
INCORPORATE THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR TEACHING READING IN
HAWAII SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, dyslexia is a learning disability that is
2 neurological in origin and is characterized by difficulties with
3 accurate or fluent word recognition and decoding and poor
4 spelling; and
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6 WHEREAS, these difficulties typically result from a deficit
7 in the phonological component of language that is often
8 unexpected in relation to other cognitive abilities and requires
9 the provision of effective classroom instruction; and
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11 WHEREAS, secondary consequences may include problems with
12 reading comprehension and reduced reading experience, which can
13 impede the growth of vocabulary and background knowledge; and
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15 WHEREAS, it is estimated that up to twenty percent of the
16 population as a whole in the United States has dyslexia or
17 another reading disability and an even higher percentage of
18 students in Hawaii read below basic reading levels or experience
19 other challenges with literacy; and
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21 WHEREAS, on January 14, 2013, a working group created
22 pursuant to Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 110, Regular
23 Session of 2010, submitted to the Senate and House of
24 Representatives Committees on Education the *Comprehensive Plan*
25 *for Teaching Reading in Hawaii Schools*, which addresses dyslexia
26 awareness and literacy instruction as they relate to teacher
27 preparation programs, teacher licensure requirements,
28 professional development for educators, and reading programs in
29 public schools; and



1 WHEREAS, in written testimony dated February 6, 2013, and
 2 submitted to the Education Committee of the House of
 3 Representatives, the Department of Education stated in part,
 4 "the Department has addressed the concerns of the Work Group
 5 [sic] through implementation of its dyslexia awareness
 6 efforts...Professional development for all teachers is available
 7 through complex area/state staff and professional development
 8 coursework. Response to Intervention...is occurring at schools
 9 throughout the state with student progress being monitored
 10 through several systems. The practice of educational data-based
 11 decision making is imbedded at every school. Schools apply a
 12 data team process that reviews student progress, creates action
 13 plans to focus on student needs, and, when needed, employs the
 14 assistance of "higher levels" of support with a focus on student
 15 success"; now, therefore,

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 17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 18 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 19 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Board of
 20 Education and Department of Education are requested to
 21 incorporate the *Comprehensive Plan for Teaching Reading in*
 22 *Hawaii Schools*; and

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 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and
 25 Department of Education are requested to coordinate with the
 26 University of Hawaii and Hawaii Teacher Standards Board to
 27 incorporate the *Comprehensive Plan*; and

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 29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 30 requested to submit a written report, approved by the Board of
 31 Education, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to
 32 the convening of the Regular Session of 2014, on the status of
 33 its efforts toward incorporating the *Comprehensive Plan*,
 34 including in relation to the statements made in its written
 35 testimony dated February 6, 2013; and

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 37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 38 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 39 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, President of
 40 the University of Hawaii, Chairperson of the University of
 41 Hawaii Board of Regents, Executive Director of the Hawaii
 42 Teacher Standards Board, and Acting Director of the Legislative
 43 Reference Bureau.

