



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HONOLULU

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

July 7, 2014

GOV. MSG. NO. 1325

The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim,
President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki,
Speaker and Members of the
House of Representatives
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear President Kim, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 7, 2014, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2134 SD1 HD1 CD1

RELATING TO EDUCATION
ACT 215 (14)

Aloha
Neil Abercrombie

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawaii

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the United States
2 Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit recently held in *E.R.K.*
3 *v. State of Hawaii Department of Education*, 728 F.3d 982 (9th
4 Cir. 2013), that section 302A-1134(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes,
5 which limits public school attendance to children who are twenty
6 years of age or younger, violated the federal Individuals with
7 Disabilities Education Act by denying public education to
8 special needs students aged twenty to twenty-one.

9 The purpose of this Act is to bring Hawaii's law into
10 compliance with the requirements of the federal Individuals with
11 Disabilities Education Act.

12 SECTION 2. Section 302A-101, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending the definition of "exceptional children" to
14 read as follows:

15 "Exceptional children" includes:

16 (1) Persons under [~~twenty~~] twenty-two years of age who
17 deviate from the so-called normal person in physical,
18 mental, social, or emotional characteristics or



1 abilities to such an extent that specialized training,
2 techniques, and equipment are required to enable these
3 persons to attain the maximum of their abilities or
4 capacities; provided that "exceptional children" shall
5 not include "gifted and talented children";

6 (2) Persons under [~~twenty~~] twenty-two years of age who by
7 reason of physical defects cannot attend the regular
8 public school classes with normal children; and

9 (3) Persons under [~~twenty~~] twenty-two years of age who are
10 certified by a licensed physician eligible for
11 membership in the state medical society as being
12 emotionally maladjusted or intellectually incapable of
13 profiting from ordinary instructional methods."

14 SECTION 3. Section 302A-1134, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

16 "(c) [~~No~~] Unless otherwise required by the Individuals
17 with Disabilities Education Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400, et. seq., no
18 person who is twenty years of age or over on the first
19 instructional day of the school year shall be eligible to attend
20 a public school[~~—If~~]; provided that if a person reaches twenty
21 years of age after the first instructional day of the school



1 year, the person shall be eligible to attend public school for
2 the full school year."

3 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED this 7 day of JUL, 2014



GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII