
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 over a decade of
2 research, collected in reports such as "A New Wave of Evidence"
3 from Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, shows that
4 parental involvement can improve students' academic success.
5 The positive effects of parental involvement, observed across
6 all income levels and family backgrounds, include higher grades
7 and attendance rates, better social skills, and a higher level
8 of school advancement. For example, increased parental
9 involvement was a factor credited to Kona's Honaunau elementary
10 school's good standing after the school previously fell short of
11 federal No Child Left Behind benchmarks. In addition to
12 revisions to the curriculum and teaching methods, parents were
13 invited to the school to learn what their children were being
14 taught and how they could help at home.

15 The legislature further finds that technology can be an
16 effective tool for providing information on what students are
17 learning, school assignments, what parents may do to help, and
18 any other important information. As an early example, the



1 "TransPARENT Model" made information available to parents over
2 the telephone, and the program resulted in increases in parental
3 involvement and higher grades achieved by students.
4 Improvements in technology, such as the Internet may facilitate
5 yet more effective means of parental involvement.

6 The purpose of this Act is to create a family-involvement-
7 in-education pilot program that would make information about
8 students' education available to their parents or legal
9 guardians via the Internet and facilitate greater family
10 involvement in student learning.

11 SECTION 2. The department of education shall designate one
12 public elementary or middle school and a subset of students
13 within that school for eligibility to participate in a family-
14 involvement-in-education pilot program to take place during the
15 2015 school year. The department shall request written consent
16 from the eligible students and their parents or legal guardians
17 to participate in the pilot program. The department shall use a
18 designated electronic tool that allows participating parents and
19 legal guardians to review their child's curriculum and lesson
20 plans on a weekly basis and respond to the school with proposals
21 to help extend lessons to their home. The department, in
22 consultation with the designated school's administrators, shall



1 determine other rules and selection criteria for participation
2 in the pilot program and the electronic tool to be used to
3 facilitate communication between parents or legal guardians and
4 the school.

5 SECTION 3. The department of education shall submit
6 reports on the implementation and effectiveness of the family-
7 involvement-in-education pilot program to the legislature no
8 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
9 sessions of 2015 and 2016. The reports shall include:

- 10 (1) A status report on the pilot program's implementation;
- 11 (2) Findings on the costs incurred and experience gained
12 from the pilot program;
- 13 (3) Recommendations for implementing a standardized family
14 involvement system for all public schools; and
- 15 (4) Any proposed legislation.

16 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
18 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2014-2015 for
19 the planning and implementation of a family-involvement-in-
20 education pilot program.

21 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
22 education for the purposes of this Act.



H.B. NO. 2630

1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2014; and
2 shall be repealed on June 30, 2016.

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H.B. NO. 2630

Report Title:

Education; Family-Involvement-in-Education Pilot Program

Description:

Establishes a family-involvement-in-education pilot program for one public elementary or middle school designated by the DOE. Requires report to the legislature. Appropriates funds.

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