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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. Studies show that the difference between air  
2 conditioned and non-air conditioned environments can cause as  
3 much as a seventeen per cent gap on achievement tests. In  
4 addition, high temperatures put the health and safety of  
5 students and teachers at risk for conditions such as heat  
6 exhaustion and heat stroke. Hawaii's public school classrooms  
7 are, on average, over sixty-five years old, with electrical  
8 infrastructure that often cannot support traditional air  
9 conditioning technology. Recent departmental estimates have put  
10 the cost of air conditioning at \$110,000 per classroom.

11           To help address this problem, the legislature finds that  
12 the department should use available energy-efficient technology,  
13 including off-grid and photovoltaic technology, to reduce the  
14 electrical burden and cost of cooling classrooms. Employing a  
15 combination of on-grid, off-grid, and photovoltaic technology  
16 could reduce the per-classroom cost of air conditioning to



1 \$20,000 or a total of \$140,000,000 for the seven thousand  
2 classrooms currently in need of air conditioning.

3 The purpose of this legislation is to provide energy-  
4 efficient air conditioning to all public school classrooms  
5 within five years.

6 SECTION 2. Beginning with the 2016-2017 school year, the  
7 department of education shall:

- 8 (1) Develop a plan to provide air conditioning for public  
9 school facilities using a mix of technologies,  
10 including off-grid technology, photovoltaic  
11 technology, and split air conditioning units; and  
12 (2) Provide air conditioning to multiple public schools  
13 using off-grid technology and photovoltaic technology.

14 Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, the department  
15 shall establish a master plan for the installation of air  
16 conditioning at all public school classrooms that meet or exceed  
17 a temperature of ninety degrees Fahrenheit; provided that top  
18 priority is given to schools in the greatest need of air  
19 conditioning. Based on this plan, air conditioning shall be  
20 installed in:



1 (1) Priority schools by the end of the 2018-2019 school  
2 year;

3 (2) Fifty per cent of schools by the end of the 2019-2020  
4 school year; and

5 (3) All schools by the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

6 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for the  
9 initiation and expansion of projects that demonstrate efficient  
10 methods to provide air conditioning to public school facilities,  
11 including, but not limited to off-grid and photovoltaic  
12 technology.

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

15 SECTION 4. The director of finance is authorized to issue  
16 general obligation bonds in the sum of \$ or so much  
17 thereof as may be necessary and the same sum or so much thereof  
18 as may be necessary is appropriated for fiscal year 2016-2017  
19 for the purpose of funding public school air conditioning  
20 projects.



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

3 SECTION 5. The appropriation made for the capital  
4 improvement project authorized by this Act shall not lapse at  
5 the end of the fiscal biennium for which the appropriation is  
6 made; provided that all moneys from the appropriation  
7 unencumbered as of June 30, 2018, shall lapse as of that date.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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JAN 27 2016



# H.B. NO. 2689

**Report Title:**

Facilities; Public Schools; Air Conditioning; Appropriation

**Description:**

Provides energy-efficient air conditioning to all public school classrooms within five years. Appropriates funds and authorizes general obligation bonds for public school air conditioning.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

