

---

---

## 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 arts and culture  
2 education promotes creative thinking and improves academic  
3 achievement across subject areas. A 2014 Harvard Graduate  
4 School of Education study indicates that education in music and  
5 drama contributes to an increase in verbal achievement and  
6 spatial reasoning. In 2013, researchers at the University of  
7 Arkansas, Department of Education Reform, similarly found that  
8 instruction in visual arts led to gains in critical thinking  
9 skills.

10           The legislature further finds that place-based curricula  
11 immerses students in the culture, history, and heritage of local  
12 communities and encourages students to apply cultural content to  
13 local community experiences. Hawaii has a unique history.  
14 Several communities in the State face problems dealing with the  
15 legacy of annexation, including a higher risk of poverty and  
16 lower levels of academic achievement for native Hawaiians.



# H.B. NO. 2690

1 Place-based education is essential to provide students with the  
2 skills necessary to solve community problems.

3 The purpose of this Act is to promote creative thinking,  
4 self-directed learning, and cultural understanding by requiring  
5 all elementary, middle, and intermediate public schools to  
6 allocate a specified amount of student hours to arts and culture  
7 education.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
10 and to read as follows:

11 "§302A- Arts and culture education. (a) Beginning with  
12 the 2017-2018 school year, all elementary, middle, and  
13 intermediate public schools shall allocate twenty per cent of  
14 all student hours to arts and culture education.

15 (b) As used in this section:

16 "Arts and culture education" means instruction in visual  
17 arts, music, theatre, dance, Hawaiian and Polynesian studies,  
18 Hawaiian language, native Hawaiian culture, native Hawaiian  
19 traditional and customary practices, and physical education.

20 "Student hours" has the same meaning as in section 302A-  
21 251."



1 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.  
 2 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
 3

INTRODUCED BY:

Mark Hahn

Tom B...

...

Paul Nord

Linda Lehmann

~~...~~

...

...

...

...

...

Cindy Evans

...

...

...

~~...~~

...

Mark Hahn

Richard King

...

...



# H.B. NO. 2690

**Report Title:**

Arts and Culture Education

**Description:**

Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, requires all elementary, middle, and intermediate public schools to allocate 20 percent of all student hours to arts and culture education.

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

