
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A TASK FORCE
TO REINTRODUCE VOCATIONAL PROGRAMS AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, all students have the right to pursue careers in
2 their chosen fields, and the State must encourage students to do
3 so; and
4

5 WHEREAS, while not all students in the public school system
6 have the propensity, qualifications, or desire to attend college
7 or university, all students can achieve success through
8 acquiring and honing skills that may be utilized in gainful
9 employment; and
10

11 WHEREAS, the public education system fails to help some
12 students meet their educational goals through existing programs;
13 and
14

15 WHEREAS, the public school system currently has a repair
16 and maintenance backlog of approximately \$300,000,000, however
17 this backlog does not include minor repair and maintenance
18 projects; and
19

20 WHEREAS, certain repair and maintenance work at some
21 schools can take longer than at other schools because of
22 geographic locations and distance from agencies charged with
23 conducting repair and maintenance at these facilities; and
24

25 WHEREAS, students, under the supervision of an instructor,
26 should be allowed to undertake minor repair and maintenance
27 projects, valued at \$10,000 or less, in exchange for school
28 credit; and
29

30 WHEREAS, Hawaii's public schools once had vocational
31 programs which not only helped to provide a career path for



1 students, but also helped to produce well-rounded students; now,
2 therefore,

3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Superintendent
of Education is requested to establish a task force to:

- (1) Identify vocational programs that are appropriate for
implementation at public high schools;
- (2) Develop vocational program curricula for public high
school students; and
- (3) Identify any costs of or barriers to reintroducing
vocational programs at public high schools; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent of Education
is requested to invite representatives of appropriate trade
unions and apprenticeship training programs of the community
colleges to join or provide input to the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that not later than twenty days
prior to the convening of the 2017 Regular Session, the
Superintendent of Education is requested to submit a report on
the findings and recommendations of the task force including any
proposed legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

Guthrie Thielon
Brenda Kobayashi

Feli Poulou
Beth Lytle
Ken A. Ward
Rebecca M. Smith