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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE NEIGHBOR ISLAND SCHOOL COMPLEXES IN HEAT ABATEMENT STUDIES, USE SCIENTIFIC DATA AND METHODS TO DETERMINE HEAT ABATEMENT PRIORITY RANKINGS OF SCHOOLS, AND INCREASE TRANSPARENCY IN THE METHODOLOGY USED TO DETERMINE PRIORITY RANKINGS.

1           WHEREAS, across the State of Hawaii, students have been  
2 subjected to hot classrooms, which make it difficult for  
3 students to concentrate on learning; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the Department of Education's heat abatement  
6 efforts include identifying schools that require cooling  
7 strategies, fast-tracking the schools that are in urgent need of  
8 relief, and working with the Legislature to provide emergency  
9 funding; and  
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11           WHEREAS, while the Department of Education collects data on  
12 factors such as temperature, noise, dust, and pollution, it is  
13 not known how each factor is weighted in the assessment of  
14 priority heat abatement rankings; and  
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16           WHEREAS, the Department of Education has a heat abatement  
17 list that indicates which schools the department has determined  
18 to be high priority and therefore first in line to benefit from  
19 heat abatement measures; and  
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21           WHEREAS, it is not clear whether the Department of  
22 Education's data collection includes all the school complexes  
23 statewide; and  
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25           WHEREAS, temperature should be the most important factor in  
26 determining the priority list, so that schools with the highest  
27 temperatures during school hours should rank highest on the  
28 list; and  
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1 WHEREAS, surprisingly, some areas of the State known to  
 2 consistently have the highest temperatures have no schools on  
 3 the priority list; and

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 5 WHEREAS, there is deep concern about the accuracy of the  
 6 priority ranking of the schools for heat abatement, especially  
 7 when neighbor island school complexes are evaluated; now,  
 8 therefore,

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 10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 11 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 12 Session of 2016, that the Department of Education is urged to  
 13 include all neighbor island school complexes in future heat  
 14 abatement studies; and





15  
 16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
 17 urged to ensure the use of scientific data and methods to  
 18 determine the heat abatement priority rankings of schools; and

19  
 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
 21 urged to verify the information received with all school  
 22 complexes before making any decisions regarding the heat  
 23 abatement priority rankings of schools; and

24  
 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
 26 urged to make publicly available the data and the methodology  
 27 used to determine the heat abatement priority rankings of  
 28 schools; and

29  
 30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 31 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Chairperson of  
 32 the Board of Education; the Superintendent of Education; and  
 33 each Complex Area Superintendent in the State of Hawaii.

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 OFFERED BY: Nicole E. Lowen  
   


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