

MAR 11 2016

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
EXPAND WORLD LANGUAGE LEARNING IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS BASED ON
FUTURE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT NEEDS OF THE STATE AND NATION.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is known as a melting pot and gathering
2 place for people throughout the world who want to live in the
3 State due to the wonderful climate, beautiful scenery, and
4 friendly residents; and

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6 WHEREAS, a large percentage of residents of Hawaii are from
7 the Asian Pacific region, including but not limited to Native
8 Hawaiian, Japanese, Chinese, Samoan, Korean, Filipino,
9 Vietnamese, Indonesian, Tongan, and Marshallese persons; and

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11 WHEREAS, many adults and children from other countries or
12 those who have roots abroad speak their native language while
13 living in Hawaii; and

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15 WHEREAS, children with roots abroad attend public schools
16 in Hawaii and are an integral part of the future workplace in
17 areas such as tourism, the military, and technology, among other
18 fields; and

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20 WHEREAS, being bilingual or multilingual will benefit
21 children and residents in Hawaii as they prepare themselves for
22 future occupations that need proficiency in diverse languages;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, public schools are the perfect place to expand
26 world language learning, which will be beneficial in Hawaii in
27 the twenty-first century; and

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29 WHEREAS, students from immigrant families can benefit from
30 having their native language taught in public schools; now,
31 therefore,

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S.C.R. NO. 115

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education
4 and Department of Education are requested to consider expanding
5 the choices of world languages offered to public school
6 students, to incorporate future workforce needs that the State
7 or nation may have when deciding which languages to offer, and
8 to examine the student body population of high schools as a
9 basis for expanding world languages in Hawaii's schools; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
13 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of
14 Education.

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OFFERED BY: Will Eyero
Michelle Sidani
[Signature]

