

MAR 03 2016

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE  
COMMITTEE ON WEIGHTS AT LEAST ONE MEMBER WHO IS A  
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION COMMUNITY.

1           WHEREAS, special education services provide special needs  
2 students with academic, speech-language, psychological, physical  
3 and occupational, and counseling accommodations; and  
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5           WHEREAS, most of Hawaii's special education students are  
6 performing below grade level in reading and mathematics, with  
7 the achievement gap between special education students and  
8 general education students increasing approximately ten percent  
9 in reading and twenty-seven percent in math between the 2004-  
10 2005 and 2013-2014 academic years; and  
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12           WHEREAS, shortages of resources and qualified special  
13 education teachers contribute to the challenges faced by special  
14 education students in Hawaii; and  
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16           WHEREAS, special education students are not homogenous, but  
17 instead exist on a wide spectrum of capabilities and needs; now,  
18 therefore,  
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20           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the  
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education  
23 is encouraged to include within the Committee on Weights at  
24 least one member who is a representative of the special  
25 education community, such as a special education teacher or a  
26 parent of an exceptional child; and  
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# S.C.R. NO. 42

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the  
 3 Board of Education and Chairperson of the Committee on Weights.  
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OFFERED BY: Orville Sidani

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