

MAR 1 1 2016

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## SENATE 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

5  
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

10  
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

14  
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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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,  
35 that the Board of Education and Department of Education are



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1 requested to consider expanding the choices of world languages  
2 offered to public school students, to incorporate future  
3 workforce needs that the State or nation may have when deciding  
4 which languages to offer, and to examine the student body  
5 population of high schools as a basis for expanding world  
6 languages in Hawaii's schools; and

7  
8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the  
10 Board of Education, and Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY:

Will Zygo

Michelle Iukani

[Signature]

