

MAR 09 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT OCEAN AND WATER
SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAMS FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS.

WHEREAS, Hawaii has seen a recent spike in ocean drownings;
and

WHEREAS, residents and visitors lack sufficient ocean and
water safety education; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
reports that from 2005 to 2014, there were an average of 3,536
fatal unintentional drownings, non-boating related, annually in
the United States; and

WHEREAS, one in five people who die from drowning are
children fourteen years of age and younger; and

WHEREAS, school districts in other states have included
swimming lessons and ocean safety education into their physical
education classes; and

WHEREAS, ocean and water safety awareness at a young age is
a key factor in drowning prevention; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
that the Department of Education is urged to implement ocean and
water safety education programs for elementary school students;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the ocean and water safety
curriculum is requested to include, at a minimum:

(1) Rip current awareness;

(2) Ocean safety tips; and

(3) Proper swimming techniques; and



S.R. NO. 121

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
3 Education and Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

