

1 thinking skills. Arts and cultural studies also encourage
2 students to solve communal problems with creative thinking.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this part is to expand arts,
4 cultural, and native Hawaiian educational curricula in public
5 schools.

6 SECTION 3. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new section to part II to be appropriately
8 designated and to read as follows:

9 "§302A- Whole child education. (a) Notwithstanding any
10 other law to the contrary, beginning with the 2020-2021 school
11 year, all public schools shall provide whole child education as
12 follows:

13 (1) For all public elementary schools, twenty per cent of
14 student hours shall be allocated to whole child
15 education; and

16 (2) For all public middle and intermediate schools, ten
17 per cent of student hours shall be allocated to whole
18 child education.

19 (b) As used in this section:

20 "Student hours" has the same meaning as used in section
21 302A-251.



1 but is not limited to children who attend prekindergarten at
2 schools to which the children will be assigned upon entering
3 kindergarten under section 302A-1143."

4 **PART IV**

5 **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

6 SECTION 6. The legislature finds that special education
7 services, including academic, speech-language, psychological,
8 physical and occupational, and counseling accommodations, meet
9 the unique needs of students with disabilities. Governed by
10 federal and state regulations, special education services are
11 available to eligible students in ages three to twenty-two who
12 demonstrate a need for specially designed instruction.

13 The legislature further finds that closing the achievement
14 gap between special needs students and their general education
15 peers is a strategic priority for the department of education.
16 Yet, special education teachers lack the necessary resources to
17 provide a free and appropriate education to their students. For
18 the 2017-2018 school year, the statewide achievement gap between
19 high needs and non-high needs students, which includes English
20 language learners, economically disadvantaged keiki, and
21 students receiving special education services, stood at thirty-



1 two percentage points for language arts and twenty-eight
2 percentage points for math.

3 The legislature additionally finds that Hawaii's teacher
4 shortage disproportionately harms special needs students.
5 According to departmental employment data, in the Nanakuli-
6 Waianae Complex Area, eighteen of nineteen special education
7 teacher hires for the 2017-2018 school year, and fifty-seven of
8 sixty-three special education teacher hires between the 2015-
9 2016 and 2017-2018 school years had no special education
10 teaching license.

11 The purpose of this part is to ensure a quality educational
12 experience for all special needs students by:

- 13 (1) Providing special education teachers with additional
14 preparation time to complete individualized education
15 program tasks;
- 16 (2) Providing special education teachers with \$1,690 per
17 year for instructional materials; and
- 18 (3) Establishing a teacher recruitment program to recruit
19 high school students into the teaching profession.



1 SECTION 7. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding two new sections to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§302A- Special education; instructional support. (a)
5 Special education teachers shall have no fewer than forty hours
6 per year for preparation and completion of tasks related to
7 individualized education programs; provided that preparation
8 time provided by this section shall be in addition to planning
9 time and preparation periods specified in a collectively
10 bargained agreement negotiated for bargaining unit (5) and in
11 force for that time period.

12 (b) Additional preparation time established pursuant to
13 this section shall be used during the school day at the
14 discretion of the special education teacher.

15 (c) Beginning with the 2019-2020 fiscal year, and each
16 fiscal year thereafter, the legislature shall consider making an
17 appropriation to the department to provide an annual allocation
18 to each special education teacher for instructional materials
19 and classroom resources.

20 §302A- Teacher recruitment program. (a) The department
21 shall establish a teacher recruitment program for the purpose of



1 recruiting high school students to become public school
2 teachers.

3 (b) As part of the teacher recruitment program, the
4 department shall post on its website information regarding:

- 5 (1) The job description for a public school teacher;
6 (2) Requirements to become a licensed and certified public
7 school teacher;
8 (3) Financial assistance available for students seeking to
9 enroll in state approved teacher education programs;
10 and
11 (4) Educational and financial incentives available for
12 public school teachers, including for teachers
13 employed in hard-to-fill schools, special education
14 teachers, and national board-certified teachers."

15 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$3,500,000 or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the
18 department of education to provide up to \$1,690 to each special
19 education teacher for instructional materials and classroom
20 resources.



1 at public schools, including library media specialists and
2 counselors.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this part is to increase the
4 participation of teachers in academic and financial planning and
5 require all public schools to have a library media specialist
6 and counselor on staff.

7 SECTION 11. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by adding a new section to part IV to be appropriately
9 designated and to read as follows:

10 "§302A- Principal; authority and responsibility. The
11 role of the principal shall include but not be limited to
12 overseeing the day-to-day management of the school, the primary
13 function of which is to develop and deliver instructional
14 services to students in accordance with statewide educational
15 policy and to enable students to meet or exceed statewide
16 academic standards. The principal shall:

17 (1) Ensure that the curriculum facilitates the achievement
18 of the statewide student performance standards adopted
19 for the public school system;



- 1 (2) Develop and present to the school community council,
2 in consultation with teachers and other educational
3 officers, academic and financial plans relating to the
4 school, provided that academic and financial plans
5 shall only be presented to the school community
6 council after being submitted to a vote of the
7 school's teachers;
- 8 (3) Exercise authority over the implementation of the
9 budget, policies, and operations of the school; and
- 10 (4) Collaborate with other principals in the principal's
11 school complex to ensure that:
- 12 (A) Logical, sequential curricula are adopted within
13 the school complex;
- 14 (B) Best practices are shared among and implemented
15 by schools within the school complex;
- 16 (C) The goals and objectives of the school complex
17 are being met;
- 18 (D) The use of school complex-based personnel and
19 contractors who divide their time between more
20 than one school in a school complex is
21 coordinated to maximize efficiency; and



1 (E) The passage of students through the continuum of
2 grades is coordinated in a manner consistent with
3 section 302A-1004."

4 SECTION 12. Section 302A-1303.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
5 is amended to read as follows:

6 "**§302A-1303.6 Weighted student formula.** (a) Based upon
7 recommendations from the committee on weights, the board of
8 education may adopt a weighted student formula for the
9 allocation of moneys to public schools that takes into account
10 the educational needs of each student. The department, upon the
11 receipt of appropriated moneys, shall use the weighted student
12 formula to allocate funds to public schools. Principals, in
13 consultation with teachers and school community councils, shall
14 expend moneys provided to the principals' schools. This section
15 shall only apply to charter schools for fiscal years in which
16 the charter schools elect pursuant to section 302D-29 to receive
17 allocations according to the procedures and methodology used to
18 calculate the weighted student formula allocation.

19 (b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary,
20 beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, all public schools



1 appropriating funds for a debit card system for purchasing
2 school supplies at the individual school level.

3 SECTION 14. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding a new section to part III to be appropriately
5 designated and to read as follows:

6 "§302A- Purchases of supplies; debit card system. (a)

7 The department may establish, use, and manage a school-based
8 debit card system for the purpose of purchasing school supplies
9 and other related curriculum support materials.

10 (b) The department may contract the services of another
11 entity to provide debit cards or any other related services to
12 implement a school-based debit card system.

13 (c) Debit card purchases under this section shall be
14 exempt from chapter 103D."

15 SECTION 15. There is appropriated out of the general
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
17 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 for the
18 implementation of a debit card system based at the individual
19 school level for the purpose of purchasing school supplies and
20 other related curriculum support supplies.



1 The purpose of this part is to reduce class size in all
2 grade levels.

3 SECTION 17. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by adding three new sections to part II to be
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6 "§302A- Class size. (a) Notwithstanding any other law
7 to the contrary:

8 (1) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, excluding
9 charter schools, no public elementary school class
10 shall exceed an enrollment of twenty students; and

11 (2) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, excluding
12 charter schools, no public secondary school class
13 shall exceed an enrollment of twenty-six students.

14 (b) This section shall not apply to any class that
15 provides instruction in band, orchestra, choir, or theater.

16 §302A- Class size for students with disabilities. (a)
17 The maximum number of students with disabilities that may be
18 assigned to a teacher shall be as follows:

19 (1) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, no inclusion
20 class at any elementary school shall exceed an
21 enrollment of fifteen students;



1 (2) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, no fully
2 self-contained class at any elementary school shall
3 exceed an enrollment of four students;

4 (3) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, no inclusion
5 class at any secondary school shall exceed an
6 enrollment of twenty students; and

7 (4) Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, no fully
8 self-contained class at any secondary school shall
9 exceed an enrollment of six students.

10 (b) This section shall not apply to any class that
11 provides instruction in band, orchestra, choir, or theatre.

12 (c) As used in this section:
13 "Fully self-contained class" means any class that provides
14 instruction only to special education students.

15 "Inclusion class" means any class that provides instruction
16 to both general education and special education students.

17 §302A- Class size for students with limited English
18 proficiency. (a) The maximum number of students with limited

19 English proficiency that may be assigned to a teacher shall be
20 as follows:



H.B. NO. 723

Report Title:

Schools Our Keiki Deserve Act; Education Omnibus; Whole Child Education; Early Childhood Education; Special Education; Classroom Supplies; Class Size; Appropriation

Description:

Encourages whole child education through expanding arts, culture, and native Hawaiian educational curricula in public schools. Supports the Department of Education and teachers through early childhood education, special education, academic and financial planning, classroom supplies, and reducing class size. Appropriates funds.

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