
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EXPLORE THE
POSSIBILITY OF UPDATING "HAWAI'I SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE
BLIND" TO "HAWAI'I SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF" TO REDUCE CONFUSION
AND IDENTIFY WHERE STUDENTS WHO ARE BLIND MAY ACCESS
APPROPRIATE RESOURCES AND SERVICES.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i School for the Deaf and the Blind,
2 located in the Kapahulu district of Honolulu, is a Department of
3 Education public school serving students who are deaf, hard of
4 hearing, or deaf-blind; and

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6 WHEREAS, although historically students who were blind
7 attended the Hawai'i School for the Deaf and the Blind, for many
8 years the school has limited enrollment to students who are
9 deaf, hard of hearing, or deaf-blind and who use American Sign
10 Language for communication; and

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12 WHEREAS, many students in Hawai'i who are both hearing and
13 blind attend mainstream schools in their local districts or
14 other schools of their choice; and

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16 WHEREAS, blindness is no longer a basis to attend the
17 Hawai'i School for the Deaf and the Blind; and

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19 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i School for the Deaf and the Blind today
20 primarily serves students who are deaf or hard of hearing whose
21 primary language is American Sign Language; and

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23 WHEREAS, currently, all students who are hearing and blind
24 in the State attend their home schools with support services
25 with teachers of the visually impaired; and

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27 WHEREAS, the Hawai'i School for the Deaf and the Blind
28 currently serves as an identifiable office within the Department
29 of Education that provides resources and services for students
30 who are blind, such as a library of Braille and enlarged print



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