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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that small schools  
2 provide more individualized attention to students and greater  
3 student engagement opportunities that support student  
4 achievement. However, small schools must maintain minimum  
5 administrative and support services to operate their schools  
6 while balancing limited fiscal resources that place constraints  
7 on the allocation of resources which often affects the way  
8 classes are organized and students are taught. The legislature  
9 also finds that some small schools in the State do not have the  
10 funds to hire at least one teacher per grade level.

11           The purpose of this Act is to require at least one teacher  
12 for each grade level in grades kindergarten through six in each  
13 public school in the State with a student enrollment of one  
14 hundred fifty students or less, excluding charter schools, and  
15 to appropriate funds for this purpose.



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

4 "§302A- Small schools; teachers per grade level;  
5 requirements. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary,  
6 beginning with the 2020-2021 school year, the department shall  
7 employ at least one full-time equivalent (1.0) teacher for each  
8 grade level in grades kindergarten through six in each small  
9 school.

10 For purposes of this section, "small school" means any  
11 school established and maintained by the department, excluding  
12 charter schools, with a student enrollment of one hundred fifty  
13 or less students."

14 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
16 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to  
17 carry out the purposes of this Act.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
19 education for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.



# H.B. NO. 2150

1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;  
2 provided that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2020.  
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JAN 21 2020

# H.B. NO. 2150

**Report Title:**

DOE; Small Schools; Teacher Per Grade Level; Requirement; Appropriation

**Description:**

Requires the DOE to employ at least one full-time equivalent teacher for each grade level in grades kindergarten through six in each public school with a student enrollment of one hundred fifty or less students, excluding charter schools, beginning with the 2020-2021 school year. Appropriates funds.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

