

JAN 24 2019

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CIVIC EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii has the
2 lowest voter turnout in the nation. In the 2018 general
3 election, only 52.6 per cent of registered voters cast a ballot.
4 The State's historic lowest rate of voter participation was 52.3
5 per cent. One strategy to increase voter turnout over the long
6 term is to cultivate social and political engagement among
7 students.

8 The legislature further finds that civic education prepares
9 and encourages students to participate in the public and
10 political life of their communities. In civics, students learn
11 to recognize social problems, evaluate possible solutions,
12 separate evidence-based claims from opinions, and act upon what
13 they learn. Civic education is vital to the functioning of a
14 democratic republic.

15 The legislature additionally finds that the state board of
16 education adopted the college, career and civic life framework
17 for social studies state standards, or C3 Framework, in 2018.



1 The framework uses inquiry-based learning and emphasizes the
2 application of knowledge to real-world problems, issues, and
3 concerns. The C3 Framework incorporates new paradigms focusing
4 on global perspectives, multicultural viewpoints, democratic
5 citizenship, connecting the past with the present, collaborative
6 learning and work environments, and applying knowledge to the
7 broader community. Such a framework is an important vehicle to
8 strengthen civic education.

9 The purpose of this Act is to increase students' access to
10 civic education by:

11 (1) Appropriating funds to the department of education for
12 the expansion of civic education in public schools,
13 including professional development and classroom
14 resources related to the college, career and civic
15 life framework for social studies; and

16 (2) Establishing one full-time equivalent (1.00 FTE)
17 permanent civic education resource position within the
18 department of education and appropriating funds for
19 the position.

20 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much



1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
2 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
3 2020-2021 for the expansion of civic education in public
4 schools, including professional development and classroom
5 resources related to the college, career and civic life
6 framework for social studies state standards.

7 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
8 of education for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$84,000 or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the
12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
13 2020-2021, for the establishment of one full-time equivalent
14 (1.00 FTE) permanent civic education resource teacher in the
15 department of education, to provide social studies teachers in
16 all complex areas with guidance and training on the best
17 practices to implement the college, career and civic life
18 framework for social studies state standards.

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



S.B. NO. 1165

1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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S.B. NO. 1165

Report Title:

Civic Education; Public Schools; Department of Education

Description:

Appropriates funds for professional development and classroom resources related to the college, career and civic life framework for social studies state standards. Establishes one full-time resource teacher position and appropriates funds for the position for public school civic education.

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