

JAN 23 2020

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 American democracy
2 is in tatters and under siege by divisive political and social
3 forces that threaten to undermine the civic values upon which
4 our society is based. Under threat are the civic values of
5 truthfulness, respect, compassion, justice, equality, honesty,
6 humility, civility, and many others that were once taken for
7 granted as norms in civic spaces.

8 The legislature also finds that adult literacy of basic
9 civics seems woefully lacking across the United States, as
10 evidenced by continuing public expressions of disrespect toward
11 others, from slight to intensely hurtful attacks.
12 Unfortunately, the public can no longer expect that civic spaces
13 in their community are safe places in which to share their truth
14 and lived experience.

15 In this climate of public polarization, the legislature
16 seeks to encourage civic leaders to ensure that public venues
17 are safe spaces for policy discussions, and to also promote



1 civic values in the places they live and work. Through this
2 Act, the legislature seeks to instill a civic ethic and enhance
3 civic education among public school students, the current
4 "Generation Z", through the department of education's state
5 standards for social studies, which are still new in their
6 implementation.

7 The intent of this Act is to assist the department of
8 education in building community networks for civic education, in
9 partnership with public schools and classroom teachers, and to
10 increase participation in student-led social studies lessons and
11 project-learning activities. The civic education networks
12 include social studies teachers and their classroom students,
13 community speakers who enhance student learning, and workplace
14 managers who host educational student visits.

15 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 16 (1) Appropriate funds to the department of education for
17 the development of community civic education networks
18 and expansion of civic education in public schools,
19 including training workshops for community
20 participants and worksite managers, and community and



1 classroom resources related to the college, career,
2 and civic life framework for social studies;

3 (2) Establish one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent
4 civic education resource position within the
5 department of education to develop community networks
6 to enhance fulfillment of the Hawaii core standards
7 for social studies, and appropriate funds for this
8 purpose; and

9 (3) Require the department of education to submit periodic
10 reports to the board of education on the status of
11 efforts to develop community civic education networks.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
14 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
15 development of community civic education networks and expansion
16 of civic education in public schools, including training
17 workshops for community participants and worksite managers, and
18 community and classroom resources related to the college,
19 career, and civic life framework for social studies.

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



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$84,000 or so much
 3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the
 4 establishment of one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent
 5 civic education resource position within the department of
 6 education to develop community networks to support fulfillment
 7 of the Hawaii core standards for social studies.

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

10 SECTION 4. The department of education shall submit
 11 periodic reports to the board of education on the status on
 12 efforts to develop community civic education networks.

13 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.
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INTRODUCED BY:

[Handwritten Signature]

Kurt Ferrelle



S.B. NO. 3159

Report Title:

Civic Education; DOE; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the Department of Education to develop community civic education networks, expand civic education in public schools, and establish one full-time permanent civic education resource position within the department. Requires the Department of Education to submit periodic reports to the Board of Education on the status of the department's efforts to develop community civic education networks.

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