

JAN 22 2021

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND BLIND.

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

1 SECTION 1. By August 1, 2021, the board of education shall
2 meet with alumni, student, and parent representatives of the
3 Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind, other members of the
4 Hawaii deaf community, and representatives of the department of
5 education about progress toward a plan to convert the Hawaii
6 School for the Deaf and Blind to a charter school and to discuss
7 alternatives, including an immersion school structure.

8 SECTION 2. By October 1, 2021, the department of
9 education, in consultation with alumni, student, and parent
10 representatives of the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind and
11 other members of the Hawaii deaf community, shall:

12 (1) Submit a letter of intent to an authorizer to convert
13 the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind to a charter
14 school;

15 (2) Assist with the establishment of an applicant
16 governing board for the charter school; and



- 1 (3) Develop a detailed implementation plan to transition
2 the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind to a
3 conversion charter school, as defined in section
4 302D-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The plan shall:
- 5 (A) Comply with requirements for the establishment of
6 a conversion charter school, as detailed in
7 section 302D-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- 8 (B) Ensure that the school remains on the same
9 property, uses the same facilities, and has
10 access to the same level of funding it has before
11 conversion;
- 12 (C) Include a timeline for the school's transition to
13 a conversion charter school; and
- 14 (D) List any additional funding necessary to
15 transition the school to a conversion charter
16 school.

17 SECTION 3. The department of education shall report to the
18 legislature with the transition plan, funding requirements, and
19 any proposed legislation no later than forty days prior to the
20 convening of the regular session of 2022.

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1 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Karl N. Arnold



S.B. NO. 535

Report Title:

Department of Education; Hawaii School for Deaf and Blind;
Charter Schools; Deaf and Blind Task Force

Description:

Requires the department of education to develop a plan to transition the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind to a conversion charter school.

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