
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPLEMENT A FILIPINO
HISTORY, CULTURE, AND IDENTITY SOCIAL STUDIES COURSE FOR
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, in 2020, news reports indicated that anti-Asian
2 hate crimes had increased nearly one hundred fifty percent in
3 the United States; and
4

5 WHEREAS, research on the use of racist language shows that
6 language does have a profound impact on how people behave
7 towards marginalized groups; and
8

9 WHEREAS, increased education and understanding of Asian-
10 American history and culture, and the contributions of Asian-
11 Americans can reduce incidents of hostility, violence, and
12 discrimination toward Asian Americans; and
13

14 WHEREAS, there is currently no mandated curriculum
15 regarding Asian American history in Hawaii schools; and
16

17 WHEREAS, throughout the United States, there have been
18 recent attempts to pass legislation relating to Asian American
19 history; and
20

21 WHEREAS, Filipinos are the largest Asian ethnic and non-
22 white group in Hawaii, at more than twenty-five per cent of the
23 population, and have had a long presence and cultural footprint
24 in the State; and
25

26 WHEREAS, despite twenty-three per cent of Hawaii's public-
27 school students being Filipino, the largest ethnic group in the
28 Hawaii department of education system, there is a lack of
29 Filipino representation in the education system; and
30
31



S.C.R. NO. 131

1 WHEREAS, Filipino educators are underrepresented in higher
2 education and K-12 education, with Filipino teachers
3 representing eight per cent of the teaching force and five per
4 cent of administration; and

5
6 WHEREAS, when students are represented, they feel a
7 stronger ethnic pride and identity, and are more empowered to
8 positively contribute to their communities; and

9
10 WHEREAS, research shows that when there is a family-school
11 connection, teacher-student ethnicity match, culturally and
12 linguistically responsive curriculum, and language programs
13 where students' multilingual assets are utilized, students are
14 more engaged and connected to their learning, resulting in
15 higher levels of academic performance; now, therefore,

16
17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
20 Education is requested to implement a social studies course for
21 high school students to learn about Filipino history, culture,
22 and identity; and

23
24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
25 requested to implement Filipino content into Department of
26 Education content performance standards; and

27
28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
29 requested to integrate this curriculum into existing Filipino
30 language classes and other courses and curricula, including
31 language arts, math, social studies, science, and visual and
32 performing arts; and

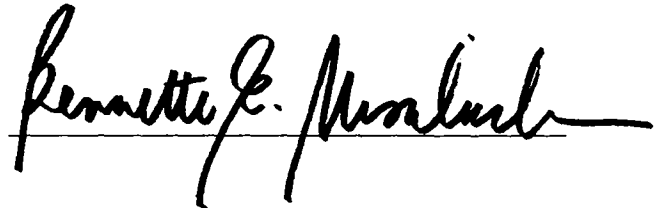
33
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
35 requested to recruit Filipino teachers and support Filipino
36 teachers to teach this course; and



S.C.R. NO. 131

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
3 Hawaii State Board of Education and Superintendent of the Hawaii
4 State Department of Education.
5
6
7

OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bennett J. Mualuk", is written over a horizontal line.