

MAR 03 2022

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
EXAMINING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STATE'S SINGLE,
STATEWIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE FEASIBILITY OF
CONVERSION TO AN ALTERNATE SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the only state to have a statewide
2 school district and a single Board of Education; and
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4 WHEREAS, a primary justification for this structure of
5 public education is that a centralized school district promotes
6 the equitable distribution of resources and funding; and
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8 WHEREAS, the quality of education children receive,
9 however, is determined by many other factors beyond funding,
10 such as socioeconomic status and demographics; and
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12 WHEREAS, advocates have called for the establishment of
13 community-level school districts so that communities are better
14 able to allocate funds to address community-level, education-
15 related issues; and
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17 WHEREAS, there is currently a lack of relevant data
18 necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the State's single,
19 statewide public school system under the Board of Education;
20 now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative
25 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study examining the
26 effectiveness of the State's single, statewide public school
27 system under the Board of Education; and
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study, the
30 Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to:
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- (1) Identify educational disparities between school complex areas;
- (2) Examine proposed solutions to address the identified disparities between school complex areas;
- (3) Evaluate the feasibility of the development of county-level school districts; and
- (4) Seek input from the Department of Education, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and to the fullest extent practicable, nonprofit organizations whose mission includes addressing educational disparities in the State, such as HawaiiKidsCAN and Hawai'i Children's Action Network; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Legislative Reference Bureau, Superintendent of Education, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

OFFERED BY:

