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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PRIORITIZE FUNDING FOR THE ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAM IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO ADDRESS THE INCREASING POPULATION OF ENGLISH LEARNER STUDENTS.

1           WHEREAS, the Department of Education's English Learner  
2 Program ensures that students with limited English proficiency:

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4           (1) Have access to educational opportunities by providing  
5 services to assist with the attainment of English  
6 language proficiency;

7  
8           (2) Develop high levels of academic attainment in English;  
9 and

10  
11           (3) Meet the same challenging state academic content and  
12 student achievement standards all students are  
13 expected to meet; and  
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15           WHEREAS, dedicated English language development  
16 instruction, sheltered instruction throughout the curriculum,  
17 and acculturation activities are important services under the  
18 English Learner Program; and  
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20           WHEREAS, the English Learner Program supports the  
21 Department of Education's mission to provide standards-based  
22 education; and  
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24           WHEREAS, the services provided through the English Learner  
25 Program implement the requirements of Title VI of the Civil  
26 Rights Act of 1964 and its regulations; and  
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28           WHEREAS, Civil Beat reported on October 28, 2022, that in  
29 2018, "41% of EL students in Hawaii public schools were on track  
30 to gaining language proficiency"; and  
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# H.R. NO. 61

1           WHEREAS, Civil Beat also reported that the number of  
2 English learners on track to gaining language proficiency  
3 dropped to twenty-eight percent in 2021 and 2022; and  
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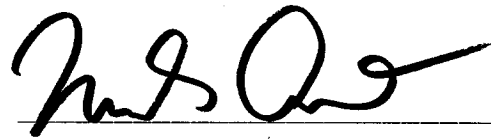
5           WHEREAS, the role of teachers play a direct impact on  
6 student success; and  
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8           WHEREAS, funding for the English Learner Program should be  
9 prioritized by the Department of Education to comply with the  
10 Civil Rights Act of 1964; now, therefore,  
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12           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
14 Session of 2023, that the Department of Education is requested  
15 to prioritize funding for the English Learner Program in public  
16 schools to address the increasing population of English learner  
17 students in the State; and  
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19           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the  
21 Board of Education, and Superintendent of Education.  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



**MAR - 9 2023**

