

JAN 18 2023

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the American Academy  
2 of Pediatrics recommends that the first school bell ring no  
3 earlier than 8:30 a.m. nationwide. Early school start times are  
4 associated with students sleeping less, and, along with  
5 irritability and fatigue, students who sleep less may experience  
6 difficulty paying attention in class, negatively affecting  
7 students' academic performance. In Hawaii, all but five public  
8 high schools begin their school days before 8:30 a.m.

9           The purpose of this Act is to require all public high  
10 schools to start school days at 9:00 a.m. and public elementary  
11 and middle schools to start school days no earlier than 8:30  
12 a.m.

13           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
15 and to read as follows:

16           "§302A- School day start time. (a) Notwithstanding any  
17 other law to the contrary, beginning with the \_\_\_\_\_ school



1 year, each public high school in the State, excluding charter  
2 schools, shall begin school days at 9:00 a.m.; provided that the  
3 school day for all public elementary and middle schools in the  
4 State, excluding charter schools, shall begin no earlier than  
5 8:30 a.m.; provided further that regardless of school day start  
6 time, each school shall be subject to the minimum instructional  
7 time requirements under section 302A-251.

8 (b) The board, in its discretion, may grant a waiver to  
9 any school that is subject to the start time requirements of  
10 this section. The board shall adopt policies and procedures to  
11 grant a waiver under this subsection.

12 (c) For purposes of this section, "school day" includes a  
13 "zero period", or an extra period offered before the start of  
14 regular classes."

15 SECTION 3. The department of education shall adjust state-  
16 provided school bus and school meal schedules for public schools  
17 to align with the school day start times set forth in section 2  
18 of this Act.

19 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.  
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1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 133

**Report Title:**

Department of Education; School Days; Start Time

**Description:**

Beginning with the - school year, requires public high schools to start at 9:00 a.m. and public elementary and middle schools to start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Requires the Department of Education to adjust state-provided bus and school meal schedules accordingly.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

