

MAR 10 2023

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ON WAYS TO INCREASE  
ACCESS TO EXTENDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES OR COURSE CREDITS  
FOR NON-TRADITIONAL AND EXTERNAL LEARNING EXPERIENCES.

1           WHEREAS, the nation's public education system is undergoing  
2 a period of intense change and rapid evolution in the aftermath  
3 of the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic and as digital demands  
4 and access take on a larger role in everyday life; and  
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6           WHEREAS, the traditional curriculum and credit system upon  
7 which a high school diploma is based, with a primary focus on  
8 the "four core" subjects of English language arts, mathematics,  
9 social studies, and science, has not been substantially modified  
10 in several decades; and  
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12           WHEREAS, innovative states across the country, including  
13 Colorado, Connecticut, and New Hampshire, among others, are  
14 exploring ways to revamp public education with more meaningful,  
15 personalized, and high-leverage learning opportunities commonly  
16 referred to as expanded or extended learning opportunities,  
17 which offer students credit toward graduation upon completion of  
18 out-of-school programs; and  
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20           WHEREAS, the purpose of extended learning opportunities is  
21 to ensure that learning is not confined to the four walls of a  
22 classroom, the pages of a textbook, and non-differentiated  
23 curriculum, but is expanded to include unique learning programs  
24 that will instill skills in students that transcend the  
25 classroom; and  
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27           WHEREAS, extended learning opportunities may be implemented  
28 through internships, apprenticeships, capstones, independent  
29 study, online coursework, community service, work-based learning  
30 programs, and other specialized venues; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, extended learning opportunities are typically  
3 designed to award students credits toward a high school diploma  
4 upon completion of a learning program and its corresponding  
5 competency-based assessment, which are meant to highlight the  
6 acquisition of life skills and professional skills that will  
7 serve students through the rest of their educational journey and  
8 into their career; and  
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10 WHEREAS, ensuring that all students in Hawaii have access  
11 to quality extended learning opportunities has the capacity to  
12 generate a level of engagement in students that will better  
13 prepare them for life after high school graduation and their  
14 chosen career paths; and  
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16 WHEREAS, extended learning opportunities fit well within  
17 Hawaii's cultural context, as they align with the 'Ōlelo No'eau  
18 of "A'ōhe pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi", translated as "All  
19 knowledge is not learned in just one school"; and  
20

21 WHEREAS, providing extended learning opportunities  
22 demonstrates the importance of giving Hawaii's students options  
23 to learn from many different sources and in many different ways,  
24 including 'āina-based education; and  
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26 WHEREAS, Hawaii is home to numerous employers and more than  
27 six thousand nonprofit organizations that can serve as extended  
28 learning opportunity resources; and  
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30 WHEREAS, Hawaii offers flexibility for extended learning  
31 opportunities through the Alternative Learning Programs Branch  
32 at the Department of Education, which provides statewide support  
33 to schools, complex areas, and districts for the development,  
34 maintenance, and enhancement of Alternative Learning Programs,  
35 Services, and Supports for at-promise students, for whom the  
36 traditional model of education has not worked; and  
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38 WHEREAS, many other students may struggle with the  
39 traditional model of teaching and learning, but have been  
40 ineligible for alternative learning programs; and  
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1 WHEREAS, improving access to extended learning  
2 opportunities in Hawaii will help to address recent research  
3 findings from the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, which  
4 reports that many students across the country are disengaged  
5 from their learning and feel they are not experiencing  
6 meaningful learning opportunities or connections; now,  
7 therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education  
12 is requested to report on ways to increase access to extended  
13 learning opportunities or course credits for non-traditional and  
14 external learning experiences; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education's report  
17 is requested to:

- 18  
19 (1) Identify the number of students enrolled in  
20 Alternative Learning Programs, Services, and Supports  
21 programs in the 2022-2023 school year;  
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23 (2) Recommend a process by which all public school  
24 students can enroll in credit-bearing extended  
25 learning opportunities;  
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27 (3) Recommend a process by which community organizations  
28 can register to offer extended learning opportunity  
29 programs; and  
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31 (4) Recommend necessary changes to Board of Education  
32 policies that will enable access to extended learning  
33 opportunities, such as Board Policy 105-10, relating  
34 to alternative programs and services for secondary  
35 students; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education is  
38 requested to submit a report of its findings and  
39 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
40 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
41 the Regular Session of 2024; and  
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# S.C.R. NO. 210

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,  
3 Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of  
4 Education.

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OFFERED BY: ~~AC. Fitch-Jones~~

