
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS ARE STAFFED WITH LICENSED SCHOOL LIBRARIANS AND LICENSED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS.

1 WHEREAS, a well-equipped and staffed school library is
2 essential for fostering student learning, personal growth, and
3 academic success; and

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5 WHEREAS, equitable access to educational resources is a
6 fundamental right of every student, ensuring that all learners
7 have the tools they need for academic achievement; and

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9 WHEREAS, schools with a strong school library program and a
10 licensed school librarian provide their students with the best
11 chance to succeed; and

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13 WHEREAS, more than sixty education and library research
14 studies demonstrate that strong school library programs staffed
15 by licensed school librarians help students do better
16 academically, even when other school variables are considered;
17 and

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19 WHEREAS, a comprehensive and professional collection
20 development plan is essential for the effective management and
21 curation of library resources, ensuring that the materials
22 available are relevant, diverse, and contribute to a well-
23 rounded education; and

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25 WHEREAS, a central location for the school library creates
26 an environment for expanded learning and supports diverse
27 student interests, providing a crucial space for intellectual
28 exploration; and

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30 WHEREAS, technology and internet access in school libraries
31 are vital components; and



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WHEREAS, licensed school librarians collaborate with teachers to enhance learning with print materials, electronic books, and electronic databases; and

WHEREAS, licensed school librarians provide guidance, expertise, and support in fostering a love for reading and ensure students have the necessary information literacy skills necessary for college, career development, and community engagement; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, that the Department of Education is urged to ensure that school libraries and school library media centers are staffed with licensed school librarians and licensed school library media specialists; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is urged to design and equip school libraries and school library media centers so that each:

- (1) Ensures every student has equitable access to resources and is able to locate, access, and use resources that are organized and cataloged;
- (2) Has a collection development plan that includes, but is not limited to, materials selection and deselection, a challenged materials procedure, and an intellectual and academic freedom statement; and
- (3) Is housed in a central location that provides an environment for expanded learning and supports a variety of student interests; and
- (4) Has technology and internet access; and

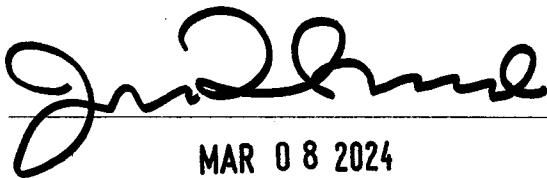
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and State Librarian.



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OFFERED BY:


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