

MAR 0 1 2024

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO
THE LEGISLATURE REGARDING PUBLIC-SCHOOL CLASS SIZES.

1 WHEREAS, a well-rounded education requires manageable class
2 sizes that allow teachers to deliver personalized and
3 individualized instruction to their students; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Institute of Education Sciences, the research
6 arm of the United States Department of Education, has concluded
7 that class-size reduction is one of only four evidence-based
8 reforms that have been proven to increase student achievement;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, research by the National Education Association has
12 found that reducing class sizes in lower-income school districts
13 helps to increase student achievement and students' test scores,
14 alleviate strain on teachers, and raise college acceptance
15 rates; and
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17 WHEREAS, additional research published by the Center for
18 Educational Equity discovered that smaller class sizes may
19 attract high-quality teachers, leading to the adoption of
20 policies in California and Florida to reduce class sizes; and
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22 WHEREAS, experiments in Tennessee, Wisconsin, and other
23 states have demonstrated that students in smaller classes score
24 better on standardized tests, receive better grades, and exhibit
25 improved attendance; and
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27 WHEREAS, research also shows that the students who benefit
28 the most from smaller class sizes come from poor and minority
29 backgrounds, who experience twice the achievement gains of the
30 average student; and
31



S.C.R. NO. 19

1 WHEREAS, a study commissioned by the United States
2 Department of Education analyzed the achievement of students in
3 2,561 schools across the nation by their performance on the
4 National Assessment of Educational Progress and found that,
5 after controlling for student background, the only objective
6 factor that correlated with higher test scores was class size;
7 now, 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 2024, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
12 Education is requested to provide a report to the Legislature
13 regarding public-school class sizes; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is requested to
16 contain information on the number of classes at each school that
17 exceed the optimum class size ratios contained in Board of
18 Education Policy 106-2, including the subject matter and grade
19 level for these classes; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
23 Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY: _____

