

MAR 01 2024

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# SENATE 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  
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32           WHEREAS, a study commissioned by the United States  
33 Department of Education analyzed the achievement of students in



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1 2,561 schools across the nation by their performance on the  
2 National Assessment of Educational Progress and found that,  
3 after controlling for student background, the only objective  
4 factor that correlated with higher test scores was class size;  
5 now, therefore,

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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
8 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,  
9 that the Department of Education is requested to provide a  
10 report to the Legislature regarding public-school class sizes;  
11 and

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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report is requested to  
14 contain information on the number of classes at each school that  
15 exceed the optimum class size ratios contained in Board of  
16 Education Policy 106-2, including the subject matter and grade  
17 level for these classes; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
21 Education and Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "B. S. L.", is written over a horizontal line.