HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS ACCESS TO A DEBIT CARD FOR THE PURCHASE OF THEIR ALLOTTED CLASSROOM SUPPLIES.

WHEREAS, a shortage of school supplies for Hawaii's public school classrooms and a shortage of funds to purchase these supplies has been an ongoing problem for many years; and

WHEREAS, a purchasing system to address this problem must be concentrated at the classroom level, where the process can be streamlined to eliminate time lags and reimbursement to teachers for out-of-pocket expenses and also provide them with the flexibility to take advantage of discounts and sales; and

WHEREAS, an efficient purchasing system must also be capable of providing up-to-date information on the status of a teacher's allotted funds for classroom supplies; and

WHEREAS, it would benefit students and teachers if a similar system were in place at the Department of Education, where teachers would be allowed to expend their allotted classroom supply funds through a debit card; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education is urged to allow public school teachers access to a state-issued debit card for purchases of classroom supplies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education create policies and procedures and completely implement the debit card program for all teachers no later than the start of the 2007-2008 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

Janbara Marundo