JAN 2 5 2006

S.B. NO. 2405

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaiian immersion
- 2 schooling is a state educational priority. Yet, for students
- 3 attending Kauai's only department of education public Hawaiian
- 4 immersion school, Ke Kula Kaiapuni Hawaii o Kapaa, those who
- 5 live outside of the Kapaa district have no access to
- 6 state-funded bus service. Many students have been forced to
- 7 find alternative means of transportation to and from school,
- 8 which can be unsafe. The transportation difficulties facing
- 9 these students have resulted in a decline in enrollment and
- 10 attendance.
- 11 The purpose of this Act is to prevent declining enrollment
- 12 and attendance at Ke Kula Kaiapuni Hawaii o Kapaa on Kauai by
- 13 providing moneys to support an island-wide bus service for
- 14 students attending the Hawaiian immersion school.
- 15 SECTION 2. Section 302A-406, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- "[+]\$302A-406[+] Transportation of school children. (a)
- 18 The department may provide suitable transportation to and from



1

S.B. NO. 2409

- 1 school and for educational field trips for all children in
- 2 grades kindergarten to twelve and in special education classes.
- 3 The department shall adopt such policy, procedure, and program
- 4 as it deems necessary to provide suitable transportation. In
- 5 formulating the policy, procedure, and program, the department
- 6 shall consider the school district; the school attendance area
- 7 in which a school child normally resides; the distance the
- 8 school child lives from the school; the availability of public
- 9 carriers or other means of transportation; the frequency,
- 10 regularity, and availability of public transportation; and the
- 11 grade level, physical handicap, or special learning disability
- 12 of a school child, and it may also consider such conditions and
- 13 circumstances unique or peculiar to a county or area.
- 14 (b) The department shall provide island-wide bus service
- 15 to and from school on the island of Kauai for students attending
- 16 the Hawaiian immersion school, Ke Kula Kaiapuni Hawaii o Kapaa.
- 17 [\(\(\frac{(b)}{c}\)] (c) The department shall adopt rules under chapter
- 18 91 governing the supervision and administration of the
- 19 transportation of school children under this section."
- 20 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
- 21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000, or so much

8

- 1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007, to carry
- 2 out the purposes of this Act.
- 3 SECTION 4. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the
- 4 department of education.
- 5 SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 6 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.

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SB. NO. 2905

Report Title:

DOE; Schools; Students; Transportation; Hawaiian Immersion

Description:

Provides island-wide bus service for the only DOE public Hawaiian immersion school on Kauai. Makes appropriation.