
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO IMPROVE ITS DELIVERY OF SERVICES TO SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES BY RECONSIDERING THE RATES PAID TO INTENSIVE INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES CONSULTANTS.

1 WHEREAS, since the lifting of the Felix consent decree in
2 2005, the Department of Education has decreased its spending on
3 special education contracts; and

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5 WHEREAS, parents of special education students have noted
6 that some services for their children have gradually been
7 eliminated and that the number of available intensive
8 instructional services consultants are being restricted; and

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10 WHEREAS, services provided by intensive instructional
11 services consultants include skills training, parent training,
12 and supportive services for children with special needs; and

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14 WHEREAS, the rates paid for these services have been
15 changed, standardized, or capped by the Department of Education;
16 and

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18 WHEREAS, the Legislature understands that there is a need
19 to establish a standard rate for intensive instructional
20 services consultants and that proposed consultant rates are
21 scheduled to take effect July 1, 2007; and

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23 WHEREAS, families in need of psychiatric services through
24 the Department of Education may suffer or experience hardship
25 due to the new rates paid to consultants; and

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27 WHEREAS, given the requirements of the No Child Left Behind
28 Act, the State of Hawaii can ill afford a loss of services to
29 special needs children; now, therefore,

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31 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
32 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
33 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Department of

1 Education is requested to review the discrepancies between the
2 current rates paid to intensive instructional services
3 consultants and the proposed rates that are scheduled to take
4 effect on July 1, 2007, as well as determine the impact of the
5 proposed rates on special needs students and their families; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
8 requested to report its findings regarding the consequences of
9 changing rates to the legislature not less than twenty days
10 before the beginning of the 2008 legislative session; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
13 requested to convene with the Department of Health to determine
14 how the area of Honoka'a on the island of Hawaii and similar
15 areas in the state can be designated as "rural"; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
19 Board of Education and the Superintendent of Education.
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