
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ON CURRENT
INITIATIVES AND DEVELOP A PLAN FOR FUTURE AREAS OF
IMPROVEMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the No Child Left Behind Act has forced schools to
2 focus their funding and efforts on the lowest achieving students
3 in order to meet the mandates of Adequate Yearly Progress
4 required by that Act; and
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6 WHEREAS, students who are capable of high academic
7 achievement, become unchallenged or bored and may exhibit
8 behavioral problems in class, and are not reaching their full
9 potential; and
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11 WHEREAS, many families with highly capable children have
12 chosen to send their children to private schools because of a
13 perceived lack of challenging curricula in public schools; and
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15 WHEREAS, the gifted and talented programs that do exist in
16 the public schools often serve a very small percentage of highly
17 capable students; and
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19 WHEREAS, many students deemed "unqualified" for current
20 gifted and talented programs are actually capable of high
21 achievement through "perspiration" and "aspiration"; and
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23 WHEREAS, open-enrollment gifted and talented programs,
24 similar to programs at Kahuku High School and Kahuku
25 Intermediate School, show that many more students than
26 previously contemplated are capable of meeting the demands of
27 rigorous and challenging curricula; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
32 Education is requested to report on current initiatives that



1 provide for high achieving students and to develop a plan and
2 provide information on the implementation of the plan for future
3 areas of improvement, including establishing outcomes,
4 strategies, measures, and timelines, with the goal of twenty per
5 cent of public school students enrolling in gifted and talented
6 programs, honors classes, advanced placement courses,
7 International Baccalaureate programs, or other similar programs
8 designed to provide rigorous and challenging curricula; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan include but not be
11 limited to the following:

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13 (1) The number of students currently enrolled in gifted
14 and talented programs or similar programs with highly
15 challenging academic curricula;
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17 (2) Recommendations on ways to increase the number of
18 enrolled students in gifted and talented programs or
19 similar programs with highly challenging academic
20 curricula, in order to reach the goal of twenty per
21 cent of public school students enrolled in such
22 programs;
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24 (3) Recommendations on methods to include students in the
25 gifted and talented programs who may not exhibit the
26 traditional qualifications for acceptance into such
27 programs, but who demonstrate a high aptitude for
28 achievement by other performance measures;
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30 (4) Program recommendations to provide opportunities for
31 potentially high achieving students;
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33 (5) Program recommendations in the areas of language arts,
34 social studies, math, science, fine arts, performing
35 arts, and foreign languages; and
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37 (6) The personnel requirements and costs associated with
38 the comprehensive plan; and
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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
41 requested to make information available regarding gifted and
42 talented programs and courses and on current initiatives for
43 high achieving students via the Internet; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
2 requested to submit its report and plan, including any findings
3 and recommendations, to the Legislature no later than twenty
4 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Board of Education
8 and the Superintendent of Education.

