

MAR 14 2007

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE FOR HIGH  
ACHIEVING STUDENTS.

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, 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,  
31 that the Department of Education is requested to develop a  
32 comprehensive plan to promote opportunities for high achievement  
33 with the goal of twenty per cent of public school students  
34 enrolling in gifted and talented programs, honors classes,  
35 advanced placement courses, International Baccalaureate



1 programs, or other similar programs designed to provide rigorous  
2 and challenging curricula; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the comprehensive plan include  
5 the following:

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7 (1) The number of students currently enrolled in gifted  
8 and talented programs or similar programs with highly  
9 challenging academic curricula;

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11 (2) Recommendations on ways to increase the number of  
12 enrolled students in gifted and talented programs or  
13 similar programs with highly challenging academic  
14 curricula, in order to reach the goal of twenty per  
15 cent of public school students enrolled in such  
16 programs;

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18 (3) Recommendations on methods to include students in the  
19 gifted and talented programs who may not exhibit the  
20 traditional qualifications for acceptance into such  
21 programs, but who demonstrate a high aptitude for  
22 achievement by other performance measures;

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24 (4) Program recommendations to provide opportunities for  
25 potentially high achieving students;

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27 (5) Program recommendations in the areas of language arts,  
28 social studies, math, science, fine arts, performing  
29 arts, and foreign languages; and

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31 (6) The personnel requirements and costs associated with  
32 the comprehensive plan; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
35 requested to submit its plan and any findings and  
36 recommendations to this body no later than twenty days prior to  
37 the convening of the 2008 Regular Session; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this



# S.R. NO. 45

1 Resolution be transmitted to the Board of Education and the  
2 Superintendent of Education.

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OFFERED BY: Norman Satmjo

