
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,
AND THE HAWAII TEACHER STANDARDS BOARD TO PROPOSE
EDUCATIONAL MEASURES THAT PROMOTE APPROPRIATE AND
DIFFERENTIATED POLICIES AND PRACTICES.

1 WHEREAS, policies, regulations, and decisions are too often
2 either inflexible and ill-suited to appropriately and
3 effectively meet the requirements of diverse situations and
4 conditions or so broad as to lack focus, clarity, and the means
5 for collaboration and coordination, with either extreme,
6 incapable of best dealing with individual situations of
7 students, teachers, schools, and school complexes; and
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9 WHEREAS, federally-imposed No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
10 mandates require that all schools be judged upon their adequate
11 yearly progress (AYP) without considering the different
12 challenges and situations each school may face; and
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14 WHEREAS, NCLB mandates require that all students be judged
15 with single assessments with single benchmarks, regardless of
16 the level of English proficiency, existence of individualized
17 educational plans (IEPs), and other personal and individualized
18 challenges; and
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20 WHEREAS, many schools and students, especially those of
21 immigrant and economically stressed families, start well below
22 the benchmarks for AYP or proficiency and make significant
23 progress in achievement levels although short of reaching the
24 benchmark for AYP or proficiency; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board awards both new
27 and experienced teachers a single undifferentiated license or
28 renewal without regard to a teacher's longevity, recognized
29 effectiveness, or resume of honors and awards; and
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31 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Teachers Association, the Hawaii
32 Government Employees Association, the Department of Education,
33 the Board of Education, and the State negotiate teacher and



1 administrator contracts that designate pay based solely on paper
2 qualifications on years of service, teaching, and advanced
3 degrees and professional development coursework; and

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5 WHEREAS, the compensation to teachers who are formally
6 recognized for teaching excellence and whose students yearly
7 outperform similar populations of students is not differentiated
8 from other teachers who are moderately effective to seriously
9 ineffective; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Department of Education allows schools wide
12 latitude to select and deliver curriculum so that schools within
13 the same complex may have widely different curricula, textbooks,
14 and other teaching resources and teachers teaching the same
15 course in the same school can use different textbooks, lessons,
16 and assessments; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007,
20 that the Department of Education is requested to propose
21 alternative assessments to the present NCLB mandates that more
22 appropriately demonstrate growth in school effectiveness and
23 student achievement and differentiates among the diverse student
24 populations in Hawaii, including those of the most limited
25 English proficiency and those with IEPs; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Teacher Standards
28 Board, with input from the Department of Education and the
29 Hawaii State Teachers Association, is requested to propose
30 differentiated teacher licenses and renewals that recognize
31 teacher effectiveness, longevity, and honors and awards to
32 possibly include the designation of master teacher and emeritus
33 teacher; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education and the
36 Department of Education, in consultation with teachers including
37 authorized representatives of the Hawaii State Teachers
38 Association, are requested to report ways to create a
39 differentiated compensation system or a plan for recognition,
40 promotion, or reward that recognizes highly effective teaching;
41 and

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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
44 requested to report on how the schools can focus curricular



1 options in core subjects (language, arts, math, and science) to
2 more effectively promote collaboration, professional
3 development, student assessment, coordinated learning
4 activities, and bulk purchasing; and
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education,
7 the Board of Education, and the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board
8 are requested to submit their findings and recommendations,
9 including proposed legislation, to the Legislature not later
10 than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2008 Regular
11 Session; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board of
15 Education, the Superintendent of Education, the Executive
16 Director of the Hawaii State Teachers Association, and the
17 Chairperson of the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board.

