
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004 (Act 51),
2 as amended by Act 221, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, as amended
3 by Act 22, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, and as amended by Act
4 225, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, required the implementation of
5 a new allocation method, the weighted student formula to
6 distribute funds to schools based upon the characteristics of
7 the school's students. Act 51, as amended, also created the
8 committee on weights, whose responsibility is to recommend an
9 allocation formula and various weights of characteristics to the
10 board of education. The board of education is required to
11 review the formula annually and recommend changes if necessary.

12 The committee has been in existence for two years. During
13 this time, it has become apparent that schools, principals, and
14 schools' community councils would benefit from knowing that
15 their funding is consistent over a two-year period. The
16 legislature finds that this stability in funding would help
17 schools develop and implement academic and financial plans to
18 improve student achievement.



1 The purpose of this Act is to amend Act 51, as amended, to
2 require that the committee on weights meet to review the
3 weighted student formula biennially, during every odd-numbered
4 year, rather than every year.

5 SECTION 2. Section 302A-1303.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
6 is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

7 "(a) There is established within the department of
8 education the committee on weights to develop a weighted student
9 formula pursuant to section 302A-1303.6. The committee shall:

- 10 (1) Create a list of student characteristics that will be
11 weighted;
- 12 (2) Create a system of weights based upon the student
13 characteristics that may be applied to determine the
14 relative cost of educating any student;
- 15 (3) Determine specific student weights, including their
16 unit value;
- 17 (4) Determine which moneys shall be included in the amount
18 of funds to be allocated through the weighted student
19 formula;
- 20 (5) Recommend a weighted student formula to the board of
21 education;



- 1 (6) Perform any other function that may facilitate the
2 implementation of the weighted student formula; and
- 3 (7) Meet not less than [~~annually~~] biennially, every odd
4 numbered year, to review the weighted student formula
5 and, if the committee deems it necessary, recommend a
6 new weighted student formula for adoption by the board
7 of education."

8 SECTION 3. Section 302A-1303.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
9 is amended to read as follows:

10 "**§302A-1303.6 Weighted student formula.** Based upon
11 recommendations from the committee on weights, the board of
12 education, not less than [~~annually,~~] biennially, shall adopt a
13 weighted student formula for the allocation of moneys to public
14 schools that takes into account the educational needs of each
15 student. The department, upon the receipt of appropriated
16 moneys, shall use the weighted student formula to allocate funds
17 to public schools. Principals shall expend moneys provided to
18 the principals' schools. This section shall only apply to
19 charter schools for fiscal years in which the charter schools
20 elect pursuant to section 302B-13 to receive allocations
21 according to the weighted student formula."



1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



Report Title:

DOE; Weighted Student Formula

Description:

Requires the department of education's committee on weights to meet every odd-numbered year rather than every year. (HB17 HD1)

