
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 **PART I**

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that pursuant to Act 51,
3 Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, as amended, (Act 51, as amended),
4 the weighted student formula was established to provide more
5 equity in funding for public schools through the use of weighted
6 characteristics affecting the relative cost of educating each
7 student attending a public school. Act 51, as amended, also
8 established the committee on weights to develop a weighted
9 student formula based upon student characteristics, assign
10 specific weights for the characteristics, identify what funds
11 are included in the weighted student formula allocation, and
12 perform any other functions necessary for the implementation of
13 the weighted student formula.

14 After the committee on weights I made its recommendations
15 to the board of education and a weighted student formula was
16 established in 2005, it became clear that many small and rural
17 schools would be severely and adversely affected upon full



1 implementation. Therefore, it became necessary for the
2 legislature to appropriate additional funds to the public
3 schools to off-set monetary deficits resulting from the
4 transition to the weighted student formula. Section 2 of Act
5 51, as amended, authorized supplementary allocations for this
6 type of assistance.

7 The legislature continues to support and is committed to
8 the objectives and goals of Act 51, as amended, but is mindful
9 that the implementation of the weighted student formula must
10 continue to be refined to appropriately and equitably address
11 the needs of all students and schools. As great care was taken
12 to evaluate, develop, and implement the weighted student formula
13 approach, equal care and consideration must be invested in
14 fashioning an improved method for providing appropriate funding
15 to the schools.

16 The legislature further finds that the schools that appear
17 to suffer the most under the weighted student formula fall into
18 certain categories, such as schools with smaller student
19 enrollment, geographically isolated schools, schools with a
20 large number of transient students or non-English proficient
21 students, or a combination of these. Therefore, although these
22 characteristics may already be taken into consideration under



1 the weighted student formula, adequate funds have not been
2 available to compensate for these disadvantages. Additional
3 compensation based on these factors may also be necessary to
4 prevent certain schools from suffering devastating consequences.

5 The legislature believes schools in these categories that
6 suffer adverse impacts under the weighted student formula must
7 be provided a means for positively ensuring they can and will
8 continue to function in the immediate future and thereafter.

9 The purpose of this part is to augment the weighted student
10 formula allocations to bring funding of negatively impacted
11 schools closer to adequacy.

12 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
13 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$18,849,300, or so
14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and
15 the same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
16 year 2008-2009, to augment funds provided under weighted student
17 formula allocations for the educational needs of the following
18 students on a per student basis as follows:

- 19 (1) Students in junior kindergarten classes
20 with fifteen or fewer students
21 6000 students at \$1,165/student \$6,990,000
22 (2) Students in geographically isolated schools



| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | 1884 students at \$100/student | \$188,400 |
| 2 | (3) Students in multitrack schools | |
| 3 | 5700 students at \$150/student | \$855,000 |
| 4 | (4) Transient students | |
| 5 | 16,246 students at \$200/student | \$3,249,200 |
| 6 | (5) Students in small schools | |
| 7 | Oahu: 16,665 students at \$0/student | \$0 |
| 8 | Neighbor islands: | |
| 9 | 15,667 students at \$100/student | \$1,566,700 |
| 10 | (6) Non-English proficient students | |
| 11 | 4000 students at \$1500/student | \$6,000,000 |

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
13 of education for the purposes of this part.

14 **PART II**

15 SECTION 3. The legislature finds that the board of
16 education, in 2002, approved the superintendent's proposal to
17 establish complex areas, headed by complex area superintendents
18 and comprised of two or more school complexes. Each school
19 complex consists of a high school and the intermediate or middle
20 and elementary schools that feed into it. The establishment of
21 complex areas allows each administrator to focus on the needs of



1 the supporting schools and school complexes to provide better
2 supervision and support.

3 The legislature believes that the establishment of complex
4 areas provides the opportunity for the more efficient management
5 of funds and personnel among schools and school complexes
6 contained therein. The allocation of resources within a complex
7 area could also prove highly cost-effective. More autonomy in
8 the management of complex areas can yield beneficial results for
9 the students, staff, and administrators. For these types of
10 reasons, greater discretion for the allocation of resources
11 should lie with the complex area superintendents.

12 The purpose of this part is to:

13 (1) Authorize complex area superintendents to allocate
14 resources within the complex area to achieve
15 efficiency and cost-effectiveness; and

16 (2) Appropriate funds for complex area superintendents to
17 allocate resources at the complex level to provide
18 complex area superintendents increased control over
19 underutilized or inefficiently utilized resources.

20 SECTION 4. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 amended by adding a new section to part IV to be appropriately
22 designated and to read as follows:



1 **"§302A- Complex area superintendent; authority. A**
2 complex area superintendent shall support the delivery of
3 administrative and instructional support services within the
4 complex area superintendent's complex area, including:
5 (1) Personnel, fiscal, and facilities support;
6 (2) Monitoring of compliance with applicable state and
7 federal laws; and
8 (3) Curriculum development, student assessment, and staff
9 development services.
10 A complex area superintendent may allocate resources at the
11 complex level among the schools within the complex area
12 superintendent's jurisdiction when operationally efficient,
13 cost-effective, and educationally sound, including the
14 allocation of moneys and positions for complex level educational
15 officers, teachers, and support staff."

16 SECTION 5. Section 302A-604, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 **"§302A-604 Complex area superintendents.** The
19 superintendent of education, with the approval of the board,
20 shall appoint complex area superintendents for schools. [The
21 ~~complex area superintendents shall supervise the delivery of~~



1 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007;
2 provided that part II of this Act shall take effect on July 1,
3 2008.



Report Title:

DOE; Weighted Student Formula; Appropriation; Complex Area Superintendents; Authority

Description:

Appropriates funds for students meeting specific criteria outside of weighted student formula allocations. Allows complex area superintendents to allocate resources within the complex areas. Appropriates moneys for the allocation of resources among the schools within the complex area superintendent's jurisdiction; provided that funds shall be provided at a rate of \$30 per student. (SD1)

