

JAN 19 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Parent Teacher Student Association
2 2006 legislative conference acknowledged ongoing concerns
3 regarding class size and school flexibility regarding support
4 and instructional staffing. The board of education has
5 implemented a policy on class size finding that reducing class
6 size is necessary to promote quality instruction and positive
7 teacher-student interaction. The board's policy further states
8 that research supports a lower student teacher ratio in the
9 lower grades for optimum teaching and learning. While the
10 weighted student formula allocates moneys to public schools
11 based on the educational needs of each student, the allocation
12 of support and instructional staffing positions should be at the
13 discretion of each individual school.

14 The purpose of this Act is to ensure quality instruction
15 and positive teacher-student interaction in our schools by
16 allowing a reasonable reduction in school enrollment before
17 reallocating staffing positions.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section part IV to be appropriately
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§302A- Reallocation of filled positions. (a) To
5 promote quality instruction and positive teacher-student
6 interaction, the department of education shall:

7 (1) Reallocate existing filled support staff positions
8 only when a reduction of student enrollment has
9 exceeded fifteen per cent in a two year period; and

10 (2) Reallocate existing filled instructional staff
11 positions only when a reduction of student enrollment
12 has exceeded an average of three students per class.

13 (b) Any adjustments or transfers of personnel shall be
14 reviewed with the school's annual financial and academic plan
15 and approved by the student services coordinator.

16 (c) This section shall not affect the implementation of
17 the weighted student formula pursuant to section 302A-1303.6."

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: Norman Sakuma



Report Title:

Education; School Staffing

Description:

Ensures quality instruction and positive teacher-student interaction in public schools by allowing a reasonable reduction in school enrollment before reallocating staffing positions.

