JAN 1 9 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR PROJECT GRADUATION.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature has a duty to protect
- 2 Hawaii's youth from the severe and negative consequences
- 3 of alcohol and drug abuse. Accordingly, the purpose of
- 4 this Act is to encourage alcohol-free and drug-free
- 5 graduation celebrations by appropriating funds for
- 6 continued "Project Graduation" events.
- 7 The concept of "Project Graduation" began in Maine in
- 8 1980 to combat the high instance of alcohol-related
- 9 fatalities and injuries among teenage drivers, particularly
- 10 during the high school graduation season. "Project
- 11 Graduation" was conceived as an all-night, alcohol- and
- 12 drug-free, post-commencement festivity during which
- 13 graduates celebrate spiritedly and safely. Over the years,
- 14 traffic safety advocates have helped the idea proliferate,
- 15 and now similar "Project Graduation" celebrations are held
- 16 annually throughout the fifty states. In June 1990,
- 17 Roosevelt High School became the first Oahu public high



- 1 school to conduct a "Project Graduation" event. Last year,
- 2 thirty-six out of forty-four public high schools hosted
- 3 their own "Project Graduation" here in Hawaii.
- 4 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$132,000, or so
- 6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
- 7 2007-2008, and the same sum, or so much thereof as may be
- 8 necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009, from which to
- 9 allocate a one-time grant of \$3,000 to help defray costs
- 10 incurred by each public high school staging an alcohol-
- 11 and drug-free, post-commencement, all-night celebration
- 12 known as "Project Graduation."
- 13 SECTION 3. The sums appropriated shall be expended by
- 14 the department of education for the purposes of this Act.
- 15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1,

16 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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SB SMA. GOU

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Report Title:

Project Graduation; Schools

Description:

Makes an appropriation for all public high schools hosting Project Graduation festivities, or all-night, post-commencement, alcohol- and drug-free celebrations.