
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
TO JOINTLY STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF INTEGRATING
REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH ANGER PROBLEMS.

1 WHEREAS, today's world of modern technology is capable of
2 exposing us to events occurring across the globe, such as the
3 Iraq war, and we are constantly reminded that the issues of
4 aggression and antagonism remain a huge challenge for people to
5 overcome; and

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7 WHEREAS, the violence that exists within our own country is
8 made sadly evident by the actions of our youth, including
9 shootings and reports of violence within colleges, high schools,
10 and even in middle and elementary schools; and

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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique island location serves as a bridge
13 between the East and the West, bringing many different cultures
14 together to create a wonderfully diverse place to live, but such
15 diversity can also lead to tensions; and

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17 WHEREAS, there have been instances of hostilities within
18 our own schools involving firearms on campus, extreme hazing,
19 and psychological abuse among peers; and

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21 WHEREAS, currently, Hawaii public school students who
22 engage in acts of violence are not given the tools they need to
23 change their behavior because the most prevalent method of
24 dealing with such behavior is to remove the student from school
25 instead of teaching the student how to properly manage feelings
26 of anger; and

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28 WHEREAS, as a result of Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii
29 2006, programs have been developed to assist students who have
30 used drugs or alcohol, by screening and evaluating the student
31 to determine if they have substance abuse problems and identify
32 the underlying issues that have led them to such behavior; and



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2 WHEREAS, if students are diagnosed with substance abuse
3 problems, they are placed in a program with a specialist who
4 helps them overcome their addiction; and

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6 WHEREAS, a similar intervention and rehabilitation program
7 should be put into place to provide students with anger
8 management issues with the help they need to manage their
9 feelings of frustration and antagonism, learn more productive
10 outlets for such feelings, and avoid acting out in violence;
11 now, therefore,

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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
15 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
16 Education and the Department of Health are requested to jointly
17 study the feasibility of establishing an anger management
18 program modeled after substance abuse programs to provide
19 students who commit acts of violence or harassment at their
20 school with the tools they need to change their behavior; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education and
23 the Department of Health are requested to submit a report to the
24 Legislature, no later than twenty days prior to convening of the
25 Regular Session of 2009, on the progress of the study,
26 including:

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28 (1) Proposals for Department of Education anger management
29 programs; and
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31 (2) Projected costs of the proposed programs; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health,
35 the Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of
36 Education.

