SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE FURTHER SUPPORT FOR ADVANCED PLACEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE COURSES IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS THAT LIMIT OR DO NOT OFFER THESE COURSES.

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB) in July 2007, growth in the participation of advanced placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in the SREB states has led to a higher percentage of proficiency rates that have exceeded the national averages; and

WHEREAS, according to the College Board, a not-for-profit examination board, AP courses allow students to challenge themselves with rigorous college-level courses in high school and earn college credit through their success in the AP examination; and

WHEREAS, the International Baccalaureate Organization has found that IB students consistently attain admission into prestigious universities around the world such as Oxford University, University of British Columbia, and Harvard University; and

WHEREAS, in a study conducted by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, AP and IB students who earn credit through the AP and IB programs perform better than the average student; and

WHEREAS, in research done by the National Center for Educational Accountability students who take AP or IB courses are twice as likely to graduate from college in five years than students who have not attempted any AP or IB courses; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Education is requested to provide further support for public schools that limit or do not offer advanced placement and International Baccalaureate courses so that these schools may establish such programs or expand their existing programs; and

5

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the principals of all public high schools.