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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ASSIST SCHOOLS TO ESTABLISH WALK + BIKE SCHOOL BUS PROGRAMS STATEWIDE.

WHEREAS, a Walk + Bike School Bus is a group of students supervised by adult parents or volunteers who walk, bike, scooter, skateboard, rollerblade, wheelchair or even unicycle to and from school; and

WHEREAS, a Walk + Bike School Bus is an alternative transportation option for getting children to and from school in a safe and physically active manner; and

WHEREAS, the Walk + Bike School Bus travels along a predetermined route with bus stops predetermined by the group and tailored to each neighborhood situation, picking up participants along the way;

WHEREAS, the children walk in pairs and wear safety vests for visibility. Ideally there is a "driver" who leads the Walk + Bike School Bus and a "conductor" at the rear. The larger the Bus, the more volunteers are needed. A common ratio is four to eight children per adult; and

WHEREAS, a Walk + Bike School Bus can operate as many days a week as there are parents or volunteers who are willing to lead it and is free for everyone to use as a safe means to travel to and from school; and

WHEREAS, a Walk + Bike School Bus promotes physical activity, reduces traffic congestion and air pollution, improves traffic safety, and strengthens communities; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that the Department of Education is requested to assist schools to establish Walk + Bike School Bus programs statewide; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent and the Chair of the Board of Education.

OFFERED BY: Marily B. Lee MAR 0 4 2010