A BILL FOR AN ACT

JAN 2 2 2010

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE X, SECTION 2, OF THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION, TO CHANGE THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FROM AN ENTIRELY ELECTED BOARD TO A PARTIALLY ELECTED, PARTIALLY APPOINTED BOARD.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that significant changes
- 2 to the public education system, including clearer accountability
- 3 for the performance, administration, and progress of the public
- 4 education system, are needed to improve the quality of education
- 5 and student achievement. The legislature further finds that
- 6 changing the process of selecting all members of the board of
- 7 education by election to a combination of election and
- 8 appointments by the governor makes the board members more
- 9 accountable to the governor while still allowing representatives
- 10 of various geographic areas to elect members of the board of
- 11 education.
- 12 The purpose of this Act is to propose a constitutional
- 13 amendment to change the method of selection of voting members of
- 14 the board of education from election to a combination of
- 15 election and appointment by the governor, with the advice and
- 16 consent of the senate, from pools of qualified candidates



1 presented to the governor by a newly established board of 2 education candidate nomination commission. 3 SECTION 2. Article X, section 2, of the Constitution of 4 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows: 5 "BOARD OF EDUCATION 6 Section 2. There shall be a board of education [composed 7 of members who shall be elected in a nonpartisan manner by 8 qualified voters, as provided by law, from two at large school 9 board districts. The first school board district shall be **10** comprised of the island of Oahu and all other islands not 11 specifically enumerated. The second school board district shall be comprised of the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Lanai, Molokai, 12 Kahoolawe, Kauai and Niihau. Each at large school board 13 district shall be divided into departmental school districts, as 14 may be provided by law. There shall be at least one member **15** residing in each departmental school district.], a minority of **16** 17 whose voting members, but no fewer than five voting members, 18 shall be elected in a nonpartisan manner by qualified voters, as provided by law, and a majority of whose voting members shall be 19 20 appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the 21 senate, from pools of qualified candidates presented to the

governor by the board of education candidate nomination

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commission, as provided by law. The Hawaii State Student 1 2 Council shall select a public high school student to serve as a 3 nonvoting member on the board of education." 4 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall 5 be as follows: "Shall a minority, but no fewer than five, of the voting 6 7 members of the board of education be elected in a nonpartisan manner by qualified voters, as provided by law, 8 9 and a majority of the voting members of the board of 10 education be appointed by the governor, with the advice and 11 consent of the senate, from pools of qualified candidates presented to the governor by the board of education 12 candidate nomination board, as provided by law?" 13 14 SECTION 4. Constitutional material to be repealed is 15 bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is 16 underscored. SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon 17 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of 18 19 the State of Hawaii.

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Report Title:

Board of Education; Partially Elected and Partially Appointed Members; Constitutional Amendment

Description:

Proposes a constitutional amendment to require a minority, but no fewer than five, of the voting members of the board of education to be elected, as provided by law, and a majority of the voting members to be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, as provided by law.

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