

MAR 10 2011

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ON THE  
FEASIBILITY OF HOLDING INTRA- AND INTER-SCHOOL COMPETITIONS  
ON THE SUBJECT OF SUSTAINABILITY.

1 WHEREAS, as an island state, Hawaii faces difficult  
2 challenges in the area of sustainability; and

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4 WHEREAS, the problems related to sustainability are varied  
5 and complex; and

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7 WHEREAS, complex and multi-faceted problems are best solved  
8 when a multitude of people, minds, and ideas are engaged in  
9 deriving solutions; and

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11 WHEREAS, problem-solving may often be more effective when  
12 the ideas come from young minds with fresh ideas that are not  
13 clouded by a myriad of previously proposed solutions; and

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15 WHEREAS, competition is a proven method of inspiring  
16 innovation and new ideas; and

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18 WHEREAS, Hawaii's public school students are an excellent  
19 resource for innovative ideas and problem solving; and

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21 WHEREAS, the students are already familiar with the basic  
22 sustainability framework of the three R's - reduce, reuse, and  
23 recycle; and

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25 WHEREAS, the basic idea of the three R's is an excellent  
26 topic and starting point for a series of competitions designed  
27 to inspire students to develop creative ideas toward solving the  
28 complex issues regarding sustainability in Hawaii; and

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30 WHEREAS, sustainability competitions are being held in  
31 schools in Nevada, New Jersey, England, and Australia and on the  
32 national level in the United States; and



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2 WHEREAS, school competitions related to formulating ideas  
3 to achieve sustainability will not only increase the awareness  
4 and knowledge of sustainability issues among the students but  
5 also lead to the formation of real solutions that can be  
6 employed to lead the State toward a sustainable future; now,  
7 therefore,  
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
12 Education is requested to study the feasibility of creating and  
13 implementing intra- and inter-school competitions in the three  
14 R's of sustainability - reduce, reuse, and recycle; and  
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a report to the Legislature  
17 regarding the feasibility of creating and implementing intra-  
18 and inter-school competitions in the three R's of sustainability  
19 be submitted no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
20 the Regular Session of 2012; and  
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of  
24 Education, Chairperson of the Board of Education, Executive  
25 Director of the Charter School Administrative Office, all  
26 Complex Area Superintendents, and all public school principals.  
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OFFERED BY:

