



The Senate

STATE CAPITOL
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Media Release

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Governor Signs Bill Relating to School Repair and Maintenance

HONOLULU -- Governor Neil Abercrombie this afternoon signed Senate Bill 1383 into law. The bill, now Act 150, allows the Hawaii 3R's School Repair and Maintenance Fund to receive money from the School-Level Minor Repairs and Maintenance Special Fund.

Hawaii 3R's (Repair, Remodel and Restore Hawaii's public schools) was created in 2001 by U.S. Senator Dan Inouye. The organization's mission is to form public-private partnerships to tackle the millions of dollars in repair and maintenance backlog. Since its inception, the State has saved an estimated \$37.7 million in costs for school repairs and maintenance.

As federal funding, grants and endowments become less available, Act 150 will support continuation of the Hawaii 3R's valuable work by allowing it to receive money from the School-Level Minor Repairs and Maintenance Special Fund. In 2001, a law was passed to allow taxpayers to check a box on their tax form to donate \$2 to the Fund.

"We're giving tax payers the opportunity to put their hard-earned money into a successful public-private partnership that has made a significant difference in the repair and maintenance of our schools," said Sen. Jill Tokuda, chairperson of the Senate Committee on Education.

"Act 150 provides Hawaii 3R's with a dedicated revenue stream which will allow them to leverage private dollars and community sweat equity to create conducive and safe learning environments for our students," she added.

The law goes into effect on July 1, 2011.

(photo caption: Sen. Jill Tokuda along with members and staff from Hawaii 3R's join Gov. Abercrombie for the signing of Senate Bill 1383.)

(photo courtesy: Senate Communications)

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