HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY ON THE COST OF ESTABLISHING PUBLIC PRESCHOOL UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

WHEREAS, the Department of Education may establish and maintain schools that, in its discretion, it deems advisable, and as the funds at its disposal permits, and such schools may include schools or classes for pregrade education, pursuant to 302A-1128, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

WHEREAS, research has proven that when they are provided with early learning experiences, children are more prepared to learn when they reach kindergarten and beyond; and

WHEREAS, teachers and parents universally recognize the profound positive effects that early learning experiences have on a child's ability to socialize and to learn in the classroom; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of less than a dozen states in the country without a formal statewide preschool system; and

WHEREAS, a study of the costs of establishing public preschool in the Department of Education would help determine its feasibility; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to study the cost of establishing public preschool under the Department of Education; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is requested to cooperate with the Legislative Reference Bureau and to provide whatever information, assistance, and support may be requested by the Bureau; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the Director of the Executive Office on Early Learning.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 0 7 2014

Jakashi Om