
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE NEIGHBOR ISLAND
SCHOOL COMPLEXES IN HEAT ABATEMENT STUDIES, USE SCIENTIFIC
DATA AND METHODS TO DETERMINE HEAT ABATEMENT PRIORITY
RANKINGS OF SCHOOLS, AND INCREASE TRANSPARENCY IN THE
METHODOLOGY USED TO DETERMINE PRIORITY RANKINGS.

1 WHEREAS, across the State of Hawaii, students have been
2 subjected to hot classrooms, which make it difficult for
3 students to concentrate on learning; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Education's heat abatement
6 efforts include identifying schools that require cooling
7 strategies, fast-tracking the schools that are in urgent need of
8 relief, and working with the Legislature to provide emergency
9 funding; and
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11 WHEREAS, while the Department of Education collects data on
12 factors such as temperature, noise, dust, and pollution, it is
13 not known how each factor is weighted in the assessment of
14 priority heat abatement rankings; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Department of Education has a heat abatement
17 list that indicates which schools the department has determined
18 to be high priority and therefore first in line to benefit from
19 heat abatement measures; and
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21 WHEREAS, it is not clear whether the Department of
22 Education's data collection includes all the school complexes
23 statewide; and
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25 WHEREAS, temperature should be the most important factor in
26 determining the priority list, so that schools with the highest
27 temperatures during school hours should rank highest on the
28 list; and



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2 WHEREAS, surprisingly, some areas of the State known to
3 consistently have the highest temperatures have no schools on
4 the priority list; and
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6 WHEREAS, there is deep concern about the accuracy of the
7 priority ranking of the schools for heat abatement, especially
8 when neighbor island school complexes are evaluated; now,
9 therefore,
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11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
12 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
13 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
14 Education is urged to include all neighbor island school
15 complexes in future heat abatement studies; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
18 urged to ensure the use of scientific data and methods to
19 determine the heat abatement priority rankings of schools; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
22 urged to verify the information received with all school
23 complexes before making any decisions regarding the heat
24 abatement priority rankings of schools; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
27 urged to make publicly available the data and the methodology
28 used to determine the heat abatement priority rankings of
29 schools; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the
33 Chairperson of the Board of Education; the Superintendent of
34 Education; and each Complex Area Superintendent in the State of
35 Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY:



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