

JAN 23 2015

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

SECTION 1. Section 302A-1303.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
is amended to read as follows:

**"§302A-1303.5 Committee on weights.** (a) There is  
established within the department of education the committee on  
weights to develop a weighted student formula pursuant to  
section 302A-1303.6. The committee may:

(1) Create a list of [~~student characteristics~~] factors  
that will be weighted[+] including but not limited to  
student characteristics, enrollment trends, and  
optimal student-teacher ratios;

(2) Create a system of weights based upon the student  
characteristics that may be applied to determine the  
relative cost of educating any student;

(3) Determine the optimal student-teacher ratio for each  
grade level from kindergarten through grade twelve;

[~~+~~] (4) Determine specific student weights, including  
their unit value;



1       ~~[(+4)]~~ (5) Determine which moneys shall be included in the  
2           amount of funds to be allocated through the weighted  
3           student formula;

4       ~~[(+5)]~~ (6) Recommend a weighted student formula to the board  
5           of education;

6       ~~[(+6)]~~ (7) Perform any other function that may facilitate  
7           the implementation of the weighted student formula;  
8           and

9       ~~[(+7)]~~ (8) Meet not less than once every odd-numbered year,  
10          to review the weighted student formula and, if the  
11          committee deems it necessary, recommend a new weighted  
12          student formula for adoption by the board of  
13          education.

14       (b) When developing the weighted student formula, the  
15       committee shall incorporate into the formula:

16       (1) Weights to account for necessary special education  
17       teachers and special education support staff;

18       (2) Weights to account for anticipated enrollment  
19       increases and associated facility concerns; and

20       (3) Weights representing the optimal student-teacher ratio  
21       at each grade level.



1       ~~[(b)]~~ (c) The composition of the committee on weights  
2 shall be determined by the board of education based on  
3 recommendations from the superintendent of education and dean of  
4 the University of Hawaii at Manoa college of education and  
5 include principals, teachers, and other members with the  
6 appropriate professional skills, experiences, and qualifications  
7 needed to facilitate the work of the committee. The  
8 superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall chair the  
9 committee on weights.

10       ~~[(e)]~~ (d) The committee on weights may form advisory  
11 subcommittees to obtain input from key stakeholders as  
12 determined necessary by the committee.

13       ~~[(d)]~~ (e) The members of the committee on weights shall  
14 serve at the pleasure of the board of education and shall not be  
15 subject to section 26-34. Members of the committee on weights  
16 shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for  
17 expenses, including travel expenses, necessary for the  
18 performance of their duties."

19       SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY:

A. Kalam Ghosh

Pradeep E. Patel  
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J. J. J.  
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**Report Title:**

Department of Education; Weighted Student Formula

**Description:**

Allows for several factors to be weighted for the weighted student formula including but not limited to student characteristics, enrollment trends, and optimal student-teacher ratios. Requires the committee on weights to incorporate into the weighted student formula weights that account for special education teachers and support staff, enrollment increases, and the optimal student-teacher ratio at each grade level.

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