

MAR 03 2016

S.R. NO. 25

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO OFFER COURSES IN  
AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE.

1 WHEREAS, the number of public high schools offering courses  
2 in American Sign Language grew 1,248 percent from 1992 to 2004;  
3 and  
4

5 WHEREAS, American Sign Language is now the third most  
6 studied language in America; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, the Department of Education does not offer courses  
9 in American Sign Language; and  
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11 WHEREAS, public school students with deaf siblings or other  
12 family members would benefit from American Sign Language  
13 instruction in public schools by having the opportunity to  
14 acquire American Sign Language skills in an educational setting,  
15 thereby improving their ability to communicate with deaf family  
16 members; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, fluency in American Sign Language is a marketable  
19 skill; now, therefore,  
20

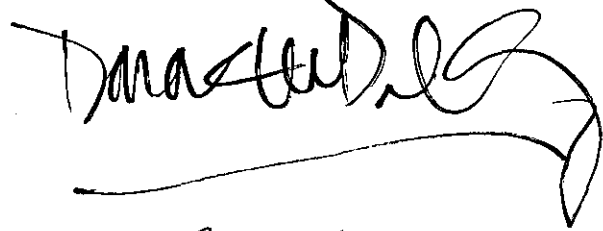
21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,  
23 that the Department of Education is requested to offer courses  
24 for the instruction of American Sign Language in at least one  
25 high school per complex area; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education  
28 submit a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days  
29 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017 on the  
30 status of establishing American Sign Language instruction in the  
31 public schools; and  
32  
33

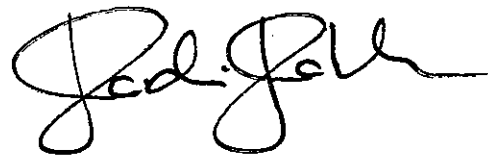


1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
3 Education and Superintendent of Education.  
4  
5  
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OFFERED BY: Michelle R. Lelandi

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Michelle R. Lelandi, positioned below the printed name.A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Claudia K. Michikawa, positioned below the first signature.

Claudia K. Michikawa

A handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to Jodi J. Felt, positioned below the previous signature.

Rosely H. Baker

Breanne Hunt

