A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Reinventing 2 Education Act of 2004, Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, 3 established a weighted student formula to allocate moneys to 4 schools according to the different costs of educating students 5 with different needs. Despite the intended equitable distribution of funds, the weighted student formula has placed 6 7 small, remote schools at a disadvantage. For example, in the 8 case of Hana high and elementary school, the budgetary shortfall 9 has resulted in the loss of several well-qualified teachers and 10 has threatened the school's ability to offer minimum course 11 requirements for students to earn high school diplomas. As of 12 2005, six schools were excepted from weighted student formula 13 allocations.

14 The legislature further finds that, despite the current 15 economic situation, remote schools should be funded to retain 16 the minimum personnel and resources necessary to graduate 17 students.



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1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to improve funding 2 equity for remote schools. 3 SECTION 2. Section 302A-1303.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, 4 is amended to read as follows: 5 "§302A-1303.6 Weighted student formula[-]; remote schools; 6 funding. (a) Based upon recommendations from the committee on 7 weights, the board of education may adopt a weighted student formula for the allocation of moneys to public schools that 8 9 takes into account the educational needs of each student. [The] 10 Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), the department, 11 upon the receipt of appropriated moneys, shall use the weighted 12 student formula to allocate funds to public schools. Principals, in consultation with teachers and school community 13 14 councils, shall expend moneys provided to the principals' 15 schools. This section shall only apply to charter schools for 16 fiscal years in which the charter schools elect pursuant to 17 section 302D-29 to receive allocations according to the 18 procedures and methodology used to calculate the weighted 19 student formula allocation.

20 (b) For the purposes of subsection (a), a remote school,
21 as defined in subsection (c), and other schools designated by



Page 2

1	the commi	ttee on weights shall not be allocated operating funds
2	using the	weighted student formula and shall instead be
3	allocated	operating funds by categorical allotments that
4	guarantee	the funding of a minimum number of instructional and
5	support s	taff positions to ensure that at least minimum course
6	requireme	nts are maintained; provided that:
7	(1)	Instructional positions shall not be combined with
8		<pre>support staff positions;</pre>
9	(2)	There shall be a minimum of two elementary school
10		teachers per elementary grade level; and
11	(3)	The categorical allotments shall remain equal to or
12		greater than the inflation-adjusted minimum level of
13		funding, except when the consumer price index for the
14		twelve-month period ending June 30 of the preceding
15		calendar year is less than zero.
16	<u>(c)</u>	For the purposes of this section:
17	"Con	sumer price index" means the national consumer price
18	index ave	rage over a twelve-month period that is published
19	monthly b	y the United States Department of Labor's Bureau of
20	Labor Sta	tistics as the "National Consumer Price Index for All
21	Urban Con	sumersUnited States City Average".



Page 3

1	"Inflation-adjusted minimum level of funding" means the		
2	total amount of funding provided to the school in the fiscal		
3	year 2016-2017; provided that this amount shall increase by		
4	three per cent for each subsequent fiscal year.		
5	"Remote school" means any public school, as defined in		
6	section 302A-101, except charter schools governed by chapter		
7	302D, that is a high school:		
8	(1) Located at least a one-hour drive away from the next		
9	nearest public high school; or		
10	(2) Located on the island of Lanai, Molokai, or Niihau;		
11	provided that if a high school is combined with an		
12	elementary, middle, intermediate, or other lower level		
13	of schooling, that entire school shall be deemed a		
14	high school for the purposes of this subsection."		
15	SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general		
16	revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so		
17	much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and		
18	the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal		
19	year 2018-2019 for the department of education to provide		
20	additional per pupil funding to remote schools.		

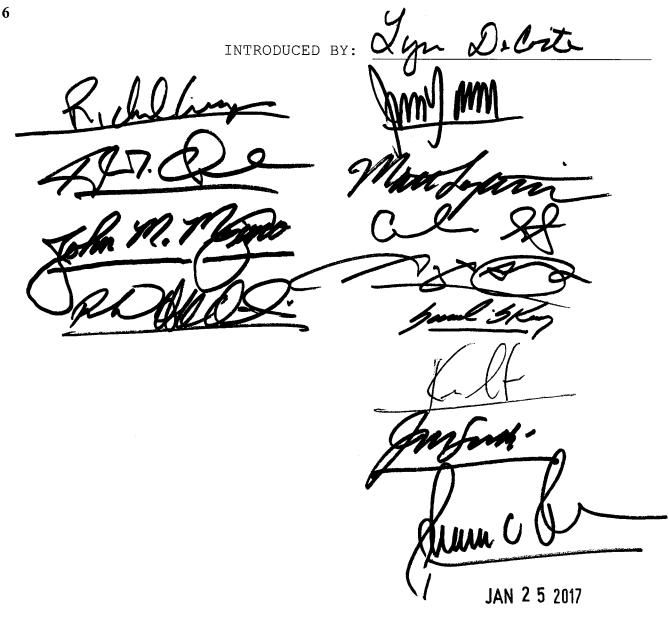


Page 4

The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 of education for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.





Report Title:

Education; Weighted Student Formula; Remote Schools; Appropriations

Description:

Exempts remote schools from the weighted student formula. Provides that remote schools will be funded based on categorical allotments that guarantee the funding of a minimum number of instructional and support staff positions to ensure that at least minimum course requirements are maintained. Defines "remote school." Makes appropriations.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

