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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM TO DEVELOP PROGRAMMING AND EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTS FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS AND LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS TO EARN TEACHING DEGREES AND BECOME FULL-TIME CERTIFIED TEACHERS.

WHEREAS, Hawaii has been experiencing teacher shortages over the last several years, particularly in select fields in education; and

WHEREAS, many classes in Hawaii's public school system are severely overcrowded, or are being taught by educational assistants or long-term substitute teachers; and

WHEREAS, students learn more effectively when classes are taught by full-time, certified teachers who teach at the school on a stable, permanent basis; and

WHEREAS, the prohibitive cost of higher education is a significant obstacle that discourages many educational assistants and long-term substitute teachers from earning teaching degrees and certification; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education and University of Hawaii System are requested to develop programming and educational supports, including but not limited to stipend funding, for educational assistants and long-term substitute teachers to earn teaching degrees and become full-time certified teachers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is requested to establish guidelines and criteria for the distribution of stipend funding; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

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