

---

---

# 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  
6 distribution of funds, the legislature finds that the weighted  
7 student formula has placed small, remote schools at a  
8 disadvantage. In the case of Hāna high and elementary school,  
9 the budgetary shortfall has resulted in the loss of several  
10 well-qualified teachers and has threatened the school's ability  
11 to offer minimum course requirements for students to earn high  
12 school diplomas. If Hāna high school is unable to offer its  
13 students the requisite courses for graduation, those students  
14 will have to endure a nearly forty-mile, two-hour drive away, to  
15 the next closest public high school, King Kekaulike high school.

16           The legislature finds that despite the current economic  
17 situation, remote schools should be funded to retain the minimal



1 personnel and resources necessary to graduate students. One way  
2 to address this is to allow these schools to receive  
3 supplemental funding based on their remote status.

4 The purpose of this Act is to authorize supplemental  
5 categorical funding for remote schools.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
7 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
8 and to read as follows:

9 "§302A- Remote schools categorical funding. (a) As  
10 used in this section, "remote school" means any public school,  
11 as defined in section 302A-101, except charter schools governed  
12 by chapter 302D, that is a high school:

13 (1) Located at least a one-hour drive away from the next  
14 nearest public high school; or

15 (2) Located on the island of Lanai, Molokai, or Niihau;  
16 provided that if a high school is combined with an elementary,  
17 middle, intermediate, or other lower level of schooling, that  
18 entire school shall be deemed a high school for the purpose of  
19 this section.



1        (b) Subject to legislative appropriations, a remote school  
2 may receive supplemental categorical funding to support  
3 additional instructional and support staff.

4        (c) Any supplemental categorical funding provided to a  
5 remote school pursuant to this section shall be in addition to  
6 the allocation determined under the weighted student formula  
7 that is made to the remote school."

8        SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$        or so much  
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the  
11 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
12 2018-2019 for remote schools categorical funding pursuant to  
13 this Act.

14        The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
15 of education for the purpose of this Act.

16        SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

17        SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2051.



**Report Title:**

Weighted Student Formula; Remote Schools; Supplemental  
Categorical Funding; Appropriation

**Description:**

Authorizes allocation of supplemental categorical funding to  
remote schools, subject to legislative appropriation.  
Appropriates funds. (SB553 HD1)

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

