S.C.R. NO. 95

MAR 1 0 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A COORDINATED MAGNET SCHOOL PROGRAM FOR KALAHEO HIGH SCHOOL AND KAILUA HIGH SCHOOL.

WHEREAS, magnet schools gained prominence in the 1970s as a tool for achieving voluntary desegregation, and subsequently expanded in focus to include purposes such as enhancing student learning and narrowing achievement gaps, giving public school parents more choice in their child's education experience, and incubating innovative educational methods and practices that can raise the bar for all schools; and

WHEREAS, magnet schools attract students by offering specialized educational options and curricula that are not available at other area schools; and

WHEREAS, magnet school programs in other states have resulted in increased achievement scores and reductions in achievement gaps for minority students; and

WHEREAS, numerous research studies have indicated that the theme-based nature of magnet schools leads to increased student interest and engagement, resulting in a significantly higher graduation rate of students attending magnet schools compared to students attending non-magnet schools; and

WHEREAS, Kalaheo High School and Kailua High School are relatively small schools serving students in nearby regions; and

WHEREAS, monies allocated to Kalaheo High School and Kailua High School under the weighted student formula are insufficient for both schools to provide full advanced placement programs; and

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WHEREAS, Kalaheo High School and Kailua High School are close enough in location for students from one school to enroll in courses at the other school; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education and Department of Education are encouraged to establish a coordinated magnet school program for Kalaheo High School and Kailua High School; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the two schools participating in the magnet school program coordinate with each other to develop separate areas of curriculum specialization and focus in order to complement the education choices for students in the region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that students at the two schools participating in the magnet school program have the ability to enroll in classes at either school depending on the students' areas of interest, and that the schools provide transportation to facilitate the students' enrollment and attendance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, Principal of Kalaheo High School, and Principal of Kailua High School.

OFFERED BY:

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