A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL FACILITIES.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The department of education shall conduct
- 2 a review of all school consolidation studies completed by the
- 3 department within the ten years immediately preceding the
- 4 effective date of this Act. In conducting this review, the
- 5 department of education shall evaluate whether the findings and
- 6 recommendations of the consolidation studies remain valid, using
- 7 the criteria for consolidation studies set forth in section
- 8 8-38-4(b), Hawaii Administrative Rules.
- ${f 9}$ (b) The department of education shall also consider the
- 10 feasibility of repurposing any school facility covered by a
- 11 consolidation study as a sanctuary or safe haven for vulnerable
- 12 populations, including but not limited to:
- 13 (1) Elderly persons;
- 14 (2) Persons under eighteen years of age; or
- 15 (3) Single parents with children.
- (c) In conducting the feasibility analysis required by
- 17 subsection (b), the department of education shall take into

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- 1 account the minimum requirements provided in section
- 2 346-374.5(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes.
- 3 (d) Upon the request of the department of education, the
- 4 department of human services shall assist the department of
- 5 education in the completion of the feasibility analysis required
- 6 by subsections (b) and (c).
- 7 (e) For the purpose of this section, "consolidation study"
- 8 means any study or report conducted by the department of
- 9 education or board of education pursuant to chapter 38 of title
- 10 8, Hawaii Administrative Rules, initiated to determine whether:
- 11 (1) An existing school should be closed; and
- 12 (2) The existing school's students should be transferred
- to another school.
- 14 SECTION 2. The department of education shall submit a
- 15 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
- 16 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty
- 17 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2019.

INTRODUCED BY:

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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Report Title:

Schools; Consolidation Studies; Review; Sanctuaries for Vulnerable Populations

Description:

Requires DOE to conduct a review of all school consolidation studies completed by the department within 10 years prior to the effective date of this Act to determine whether the findings and recommendations of the studies are still valid. Requires DOE, with the assistance of DHS, to review the feasibility of using the school facilities covered by the consolidation studies as sanctuary spaces for vulnerable populations. Requires a report to the legislature.

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