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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO  
EVALUATE THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF MANDATING LICENSURE OF  
ALL PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN THE STATE.

1           WHEREAS, prior to June 1995, private schools in the State  
2 were licensed by the Department of Education; and  
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4           WHEREAS, Act 188, Session Laws of Hawaii 1995 (Act 188) was  
5 enacted, which repealed the law that gave the Department of  
6 Education responsibility for both the licensing of private  
7 schools and the certification of private school teachers; and  
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9           WHEREAS, subsequently, a Task Force on Private School  
10 Governance was established to consider the implications of Act  
11 188 and to develop a plan for private school self-regulation;  
12 and  
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14           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Council of Private Schools was formed  
15 to implement provisions of the plan and became the entity  
16 responsible for implementing a plan for private school self-  
17 regulation, and now performs the functions and assumes the  
18 responsibilities of the Department of Education for the  
19 licensing of all private schools in the State; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Council of Private Schools approves  
22 private schools offering kindergarten through grade 12 that meet  
23 the standards established by the Council, as well as approves  
24 accrediting associations that meet Council requirements for  
25 accrediting schools offering preschool through grade 12 and  
26 serves as a liaison with the Department of Education on issues  
27 of private school quality and accountability; and  
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29           WHEREAS, while registration of private schools in the State  
30 is required, the licensing and accreditation of private schools  
31 are voluntary; and



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1 WHEREAS, to open a private school, the only requirement is  
 2 a registration requirement: an operator of a private school  
 3 must obtain a charter from the Department of Commerce and  
 4 Consumer Affairs and a general excise tax license; and  
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6 WHEREAS, not all private schools are licensed by the Hawaii  
 7 Council of Private Schools or by another entity; now, therefore,  
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 10 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 11 of 2018, that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is  
 12 requested to evaluate the potential impacts of mandating  
 13 licensure of all private schools in the State; and  
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and  
 16 Consumer Affairs is requested to submit its findings and  
 17 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
 18 Legislature no later than twenty days before the convening of  
 19 the Regular Session of 2019; and  
 20

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 22 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and  
 23 Consumer Affairs, Superintendent of Education, Executive  
 24 Director of the Hawaii Council of Private Schools, and Executive  
 25 Director of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools.  
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OFFERED BY:

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