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## S.C.R. NO. 113

MAR - 6 2020

## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE COMPLEX AREA SUPERINTENDENTS OF BALDWIN-KEKAULIKE-MAUI AND HANA-LAHAINALUNA-LANAI-MOLOKAI COMPLEX AREAS TO LOOK AT THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES OF ALL SCHOOLS TO ADDRESS OVERCROWDING, THE NUMBER OF GEOGRAPHIC EXCEPTIONS, AND THE NUMBER OF HAWAIIAN IMMERSION STUDENTS ATTENDING OUTSIDE OF DISTRICT TO BETTER ALIGN THE DISTRICT BOUNDARIES AND ESTABLISH HAWAIIAN IMMERSION PROGRAMS IN OTHER DISTRICTS.

WHEREAS, there is a strong demand for Hawaiian language immersion programs among public school students and their families; and

WHEREAS, this demand often causes students and their families to seek geographic exceptions to attend such programs outside of their service area; and

WHEREAS, in August 2019 the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that the State's constitution requires the Department of Education to provide "reasonable access" to Hawaiian language immersion programs to public school students; and

WHEREAS, chapter 302A-1143, Hawaii Revised Statutes, requires children to attend school in the service area they reside unless they are enrolled in a Hawaiian language medium education program or charter school, secure a geographic exception to attend school in another service area, or required by the department by federal law to attend school in an out-of-service area; and

WHEREAS, there is a compelling state interest in ensuring that the district boundaries of services areas are drawn to maximize the availability of Hawaiian language immersion programs for public school students; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Complex Area Superintendents of the Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui and Hana-Lahainaluna-Lanai-Molokai complex areas look at the:

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> District boundaries of all schools to address (1) overcrowding;

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(2) Number of geographic exceptions; and

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(3) Number of Hawaiian immersion students attending outside of district;

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to better align the district boundaries and establish Hawaiian immersion programs in other districts; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education and Complex Area Superintendents of Baldwin-Kekaulike-Maui and Hana-Lahainaluna-Lanai-Molokai Complex Areas.

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OFFERED BY:

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