
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO
SUPPORT AND IMPLEMENT AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS TO COMBAT
COVID-19 LEARNING LOSS.

1 WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in school
2 closures and disruptions to learning, causing significant
3 learning loss, particularly impacting disadvantaged students
4 from low-income families who are on track to sustain the
5 greatest learning loss; and

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7 WHEREAS, McKinsey & Company, a worldwide consulting firm,
8 projects students could lose an average of five to nine months
9 of learning by the end of the school year, and disadvantaged
10 students could lose six to twelve months of learning; and

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12 WHEREAS, the wealthiest twenty percent of families spend
13 almost seven times more on enrichment activities outside of
14 school for their children than do the poorest twenty percent;
15 and

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17 WHEREAS, students spend only a fraction of their waking
18 hours in school; afterschool programs will create opportunities
19 during those out-of-school hours for all kids, especially for
20 the most vulnerable and those coming from low-income families,
21 to engage in learning and provide new ways to explore material
22 and ideas; and

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24 WHEREAS, Hawaii's Nita M. Lowery 21st Century Community
25 Learning Centers, a program that supports students during
26 out-of-school hours, made significant progress in the 2018-2019
27 school year in all areas measured, including reducing chronic
28 absenteeism and increasing English and math proficiency levels
29 of participating students; and



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1 WHEREAS, afterschool programs provide integral
2 developmental supports that help kids develop strong
3 social-emotional skills needed to recover from the isolation and
4 trauma of the pandemic, succeed in the classroom, and develop
5 the problem solving and teamwork skills they need for the jobs
6 of tomorrow; and

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8 WHEREAS, according to Fight Crime: Invest in Kids,
9 afterschool programs keep kids safe during peak times for
10 juvenile crime, and according to Afterschool Alliance, reduces
11 risky behaviors such as the use of tobacco, marijuana, and
12 alcohol; and

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14 WHEREAS, according to the 2020 America After 3PM report,
15 unmet demand for Hawaii afterschool programs reached an all-time
16 high, with seventy-four thousand children who would be enrolled
17 in a program if one were available to them; and

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19 WHEREAS, parent satisfaction and support for afterschool
20 programs are high, with ninety-nine percent of parents satisfied
21 with their afterschool program and ninety percent of parents
22 supporting public funding for afterschool programs; now,
23 therefore,

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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
27 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Board of Education and
28 Department of Education are urged to support and implement
29 afterschool programs as an equity strategy to combat COVID-19
30 learning loss; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
33 requested to coordinate between offices and collaborate with
34 community partners to ensure equitable access to afterschool
35 programs, targeting the most vulnerable students, and minimizing
36 the duplication of services; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board
3 of Education and Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

Diana Higgins

JAN 22 2021

