
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT THE
DEPARTMENT'S ANNUAL BUDGET REQUEST TO THE LEGISLATURE
INCLUDES ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR HAWAIIAN EDUCATION.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian Kingdom emphasized the importance of
2 literacy and education and committed significant shares of
3 Kingdom revenues and government lands to public education; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaiian literacy and education have been critical
6 to preserving and maintaining Hawaiian culture despite
7 colonization, depopulation, and past epidemics; and
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9 WHEREAS, in today's public schools, significant achievement
10 gaps exist for Native Hawaiian students in math and language
11 arts proficiency; and
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13 WHEREAS, a school-to-prison pipeline also exists for Native
14 Hawaiian youth, who are overrepresented in out-of-school
15 suspension processes, juvenile arrests, and juvenile
16 incarcerations; and
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18 WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian students who experience cultural
19 dissonance or feel disconnected from compulsory public education
20 in the State may choose not to reengage the public school
21 system; and
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23 WHEREAS, the economic and educational setbacks caused in
24 Hawaii by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic
25 provide an opportunity for the State to rethink its systems of
26 learning; and
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28 WHEREAS, Hawaiian education should include not just
29 Hawaiian culture, language, and history, as required by the



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1 state constitution, but also strength-, place-, and culture-
2 based ways of learning; and

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4 WHEREAS, the budget shortfalls caused by COVID-19 make it
5 especially critical to protect and ensure adequate funding to
6 maintain and expand Hawaiian education; now, therefore,

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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
9 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
10 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
11 is requested to ensure that the Department's annual budget
12 request to the Legislature includes adequate funding for
13 Hawaiian education; and

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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
17 Board of Education, Chairperson of the Board of Regents, and
18 Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
19 Affairs.

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OFFERED BY:



MAR 12 2021

