
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE A REPORT TO
THE LEGISLATURE ON PUBLIC SCHOOL CLASS SIZES.

1 WHEREAS, a well-rounded education requires manageable class
2 sizes that allow teachers to deliver personalized and
3 individuated instruction to their students; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the Institute of Education Sciences, the research
6 arm of the United States Department of Education, has concluded
7 that class-size reduction is one of only four evidence-based
8 reforms that have been proven to increase student achievement;
9 and
10

11 WHEREAS, research by the National Education Association has
12 found that reducing class sizes in lower-income school districts
13 helps to increase student achievement and students' test scores,
14 alleviate strain on teachers, and raise college acceptance
15 rates; and
16

17 WHEREAS, additional research published by the Center for
18 Educational Equity discovered that smaller class sizes may
19 attract high-quality teachers, leading to the adoption of
20 policies to reduce class sizes in California and Florida; and
21

22 WHEREAS, experiments in Tennessee, Wisconsin, and other
23 states have demonstrated that students in smaller classes score
24 better on standardized tests, receive better grades, and exhibit
25 improved attendance; and
26

27 WHEREAS, research also shows that the students who benefit
28 the most from smaller class sizes come from poor and minority
29 backgrounds, and experience twice the achievement gains of the
30 average student; and



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1 WHEREAS, a study commissioned by the United States
2 Department of Education analyzed the achievement of students in
3 2,561 schools across the nation by their performance on the
4 National Assessment of Educational Progress and found that,
5 after controlling for student background, the only objective
6 factor that correlated with higher test scores was class size;
7 now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
11 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
12 is requested to provide a report to the Legislature regarding
13 public school class sizes; and

14
15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report contain information
16 on:

- 17
18 (1) The number of classes at each school that exceed the
19 optimum class size ratios contained in Board of
20 Education Policy 106-2, including the subject matter
21 and grade level for such classes;
22
23 (2) The average number of individualized education
24 programs for which special education care coordinators
25 are responsible for at each school, including the
26 total number of care coordinators whose
27 responsibilities exceed that average;
28
29 (3) The average student-teacher ratio for all general
30 education classes at each school, including the total
31 number of general education classes that exceed that
32 average;
33
34 (4) The average student-teacher ratio for all special
35 education classes at each school; disaggregated by
36 inclusion, resource, and fully self-contained classes;
37 and including the total number of special education
38 classes that exceed those averages;
39
40 (5) The average student-teacher ratio for all content-
41 based English-language learning classes at each
42 school, including the total number of content-based



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- 1 English-language learning classes that exceed that
- 2 average;
- 3
- 4 (6) The average total student workload for teachers at
- 5 each school, disaggregated by subject matter and grade
- 6 level, and the total number of teachers whose total
- 7 student workload exceeds that average; and
- 8
- 9 (7) The impact on public school class sizes of school
- 10 disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, including
- 11 the implementation of remote learning programs; and
- 12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the class size report does not
14 include non-classroom teachers in its calculations; and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
18 Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.
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21

OFFERED BY:



FEB 26 2021

