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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SERVICE-LEARNING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that learning through  
2 community service volunteering activities, known as service-  
3 learning, is a powerful instructional strategy for improving the  
4 educational performance of students. Students who participate  
5 in service-learning experience numerous positive outcomes,  
6 including a positive development of character, values,  
7 self-esteem, civic responsibility, and knowledge of local  
8 community issues and concerns; higher academic achievement;  
9 higher attendance rates; a greater sense of civic  
10 responsibility; greater acceptance of cultural diversity;  
11 increased awareness of cultural difference; positive attitudes  
12 toward helping others; greater social competency; lower dropout  
13 rates; lower disciplinary rates; and lower rates of engagement  
14 in behaviors that lead to arrest or pregnancy. Community  
15 leaders report that service-learning partnerships help to build  
16 positive community attitudes toward youths. In addition,



1 schools that support service-learning are more likely to have  
2 positive relationships within their communities.

3 The purpose of this Act is to require public schools to  
4 implement a service-learning curriculum.

5 SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by adding a new section to part II, subpart B, to be  
7 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

8 "§302A- Service-learning curriculum. (a) No later  
9 than the 2024-2025 school year, the department shall implement a  
10 service-learning curriculum for students in grades nine through  
11 twelve. The service-learning curriculum shall be approved by  
12 the board. The purpose of the curriculum shall be to develop  
13 character, values, self-esteem, civic responsibility, financial  
14 literacy, and knowledge of local community issues and concerns  
15 through community service volunteer work. Completion of the  
16 service-learning curriculum shall be a requirement for  
17 graduation.

18 (b) The service-learning curriculum shall:

19 (1) Specify a minimum number of hours of community service  
20 volunteer work that shall be completed by each  
21 student;



- 1        (2) Include evidence-based and applied instructional
- 2            practices for developing service-learning skills;
- 3        (3) Identify the ways that the curriculum aligns with and
- 4            is supportive of common core state standards;
- 5        (4) Require students to learn and develop through active
- 6            participation in thoughtfully organized community
- 7            service volunteer work that shall:
- 8            (A) Be conducted in, and meet the needs of, a
- 9            community;
- 10          (B) Be coordinated with a secondary school and the
- 11          community; and
- 12          (C) Help to foster civic responsibility;
- 13        (5) Be integrated into and enhance the students'
- 14            standards-based curriculum;
- 15        (6) Provide structured time for each student to reflect on
- 16            the student's volunteer experience;
- 17        (7) Provide model lessons and activities specific to each
- 18            grade level; and
- 19        (8) Identify supporting instructional materials.
- 20        (c) The service-learning curriculum shall be posted on the
- 21        department's website. The website shall also encourage private



1 schools and charter schools to follow the service-learning  
2 curriculum."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

DOE; Service-learning; Curriculum; Community Service Volunteer Work

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Education to implement a service-learning curriculum to develop student character, values, self-esteem, civic responsibility, financial literacy, and knowledge of local community issues and concerns through community service volunteer work. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

