

MAR 12 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO COORDINATE WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO IMPLEMENT A
GRADUATION REQUIREMENT OF AT LEAST A HALF CREDIT IN
FINANCIAL LITERACY DURING THE JUNIOR YEAR OR SENIOR YEAR.

1 WHEREAS, financial literacy is the capacity, based on
2 knowledge, skills, and access, to manage financial resources
3 effectively; and
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5 WHEREAS, students lacking financial literacy are more
6 likely to have lower credit scores and financial problems than
7 those who received instruction regarding financial matters; and
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9 WHEREAS, the lack of financial literacy education
10 significantly limits social and income mobility of students from
11 moderate- and low-income communities; and
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13 WHEREAS, Hawaii ranks among the ten states with the lowest
14 level of high school financial literacy in the nation; and
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16 WHEREAS, twenty-one states require students to have taken a
17 financial literacy course in order to graduate; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Department of Education, in coordination with
20 the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, offer several
21 financial literacy materials and instruction, but lack a
22 comprehensive financial literacy standard and curriculum; and
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24 WHEREAS, in 2015, the Legislature requested the Department
25 of Education to establish a Hawaii public schools financial
26 literacy task force through Senate Concurrent Resolution 97,
27 S.D. 1; and
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29 WHEREAS, the task force submitted a report to the
30 Legislature recommending the implementation of a financial
31 literacy program in schools; now, therefore,



S.R. NO. 118

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
3 that the Department of Education, in coordination with the
4 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, is urged to
5 implement a graduation requirement of at least a half credit in
6 financial literacy during the junior year or senior year; and
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8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the curricula include practical
9 information relating to banking, credit cards, student loans,
10 filing taxes, credit scores, savings and investments, rental
11 deposits, and wages and benefits analysis; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
14 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
15 Education, Superintendent of Education, and Director of Commerce
16 and Consumer Affairs.
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OFFERED BY:

Michelle K. Iolani

