A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 302A-1106.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 2 is amended to read as follows:
- 3 "§302A-1106.5 Board of education; community [meetings.]
- 4 forums. [The board shall hold not less than one community
- 5 meeting annually in each county in In addition to [their] its
- 6 regular meetings, the board shall hold not less than six
- 7 community forums annually to discuss and receive input from the
- 8 community on public education and public library issues [-];
- 9 provided that the board shall hold at least one community forum
- 10 in each county. The board chairperson shall designate less
- 11 than a quorum of board members to attend [the] each community
- 12 [meetings.] forum. These community [meetings] forums shall not
- 13 be held for the purpose of formulating educational policy. The
- 14 community [meetings] forums shall be [exempt from sections
- 15 92 2.5, 92 7, 92 9, and 92 41; provided that the board shall
- 16 give written public notice of each community meeting. The
- 17 meeting notice shall indicate the date, time, and place of the

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1	meeting,	and Shall be filed in the office of the lieutenant	
2	governor	and in the board's office for public inspection six	
3	calendar	days before the meeting. The notice shall also be	
4	posted at	the site of the meeting.] a permitted interaction	
5	under section 92-2.5; provided that:		
6	(1)	The board shall give a written public notice that	
7		indicates the date, time, and place of each community	
8		forum; provided further that the notice shall be	
9		subject to the same posting and filing requirements of	
10		board meeting notices, pursuant to section 92-7(b);	
11	(2)	Community forums shall be open to the public and all	
12		persons shall be permitted to attend; provided further	
13		that the removal of any person or persons who wilfully	
14		disrupt a community forum to prevent and compromise	
15		the conduct of the community forum shall not be	
16		prohibited;	
17	(3)	The board shall afford all interested persons an	
18		opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, in	
19		writing or in person, on any public education or	
20		public library issues at each community forum;	

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1	(4)	No commitment relating to a vote on a matter is made	
2		or sought at any community forum; and	
3	(5)	At the next duly noticed meeting of the board, the	
4		board members shall report their attendance and the	
5		matters presented and discussed at the community	
6		forum."	
7	SECT:	ION 2. At any public meeting properly noticed pursuant	
8	to chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the board of education		
9	shall include an open forum at the end of its meeting agenda to		
10	afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral		
11	testimony on any matter not on the agenda; provided that the		
12	testimony is related to matters over which the board of		
13	education has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory		
14	power.		
15	SECT	ION 3. The board of education shall report to the	
16	legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of		
17	the regular session of 2023 on its efforts to amend its policie		
18	to include an open forum at the end of its meeting agenda to		
19	afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral		
20	testimony	on any matter not on the agenda.	

- 1 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2022

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Report Title:

Board of Education; Community Forums; Public Meetings; Oral Testimony

Description:

Requires the Board of Education to hold no less than six community forums annually, with at least one forum in each county. Requires the Board to include an open forum for public comments on non-agenda items. Requires a report to the Legislature on implementing open forums.

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