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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH PROGRAMS AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO INCREASE MEDIA LITERACY AND PROMOTE DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP.

WHEREAS, the term "media literacy" encompasses the ability to analyze, evaluate, access, and create media; and

WHEREAS, the modern digital world influences media content of news on current events, thereby shaping the public's perception of reality; and

WHEREAS, media literacy is a necessary skill that allows all citizens to access, analyze, and evaluate information; create messages; and act using a variety of forms of communication; and

WHEREAS, the term "digital citizenship" encompasses media literacy and matters of online safety and responsibility, and is marked by five competencies: inclusive, informed, engaged, balanced, and alert; and

WHEREAS, media literacy and digital citizenship are critical topics for education as students across the country increasingly rely on digital devices due in large part to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic and the resulting forced transition to digital learning; and

WHEREAS, students use technology to play, learn, and communicate at school and home, and need to learn how to use technology responsibly and to make sound judgments when navigating the digital world; and

WHEREAS, across the nation, state legislators are taking steps to ensure that students have the media literacy and digital citizenship skills that enable them to take full advantage of online learning opportunities; and

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WHEREAS, Utah, for example, requires schools to provide education and awareness on safe technology use and digital citizenship; and

WHEREAS, students from kindergarten through grade twelve should be educated in media literacy and digital citizenship to obtain the skills and experiences needed to become full participants in the digital world; and

WHEREAS, instruction in media literacy and digital citizenship should be incorporated into every classroom and every curriculum content area to prepare students to live and work in a digital world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education is requested to establish programs and educational opportunities to increase media literacy and promote digital citizenship; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is requested, in establishing media literacy and digital citizenship programs and educational opportunities, to incorporate best practices, resources, and models for grade-appropriate instruction in media literacy, digital citizenship, and internet safety; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

