

MAR 10 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT AN ELECTRICAL ASSESSMENT OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR PURPOSES OF HEAT ABATEMENT AND AIR FILTRATION UPGRADES.

1 WHEREAS, hot classroom temperatures in Hawai'i's public
2 schools can adversely affect students by making them drowsy,
3 irritable, and unmotivated; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawai'i's overheated classrooms can also cause
6 students to suffer headaches, nausea, heat rashes, heat
7 exhaustion, and, in severe cases, heat stroke; and
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9 WHEREAS, studies show that while classroom temperatures
10 over eighty degrees can negatively impact student achievement,
11 temperatures in Hawai'i's classrooms are regularly recorded at
12 over one hundred degrees during certain periods of the school
13 year; and
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15 WHEREAS, the Legislature appropriated funds under Act 47,
16 Session Laws of Hawaii 2016 (Act 47), for purposes of heat
17 abatement upgrades for Department of Education schools; and
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19 WHEREAS, despite the funds appropriated under Act 47, more
20 than five thousand Department of Education schools remain in
21 need of heat abatement upgrades; and
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23 WHEREAS, the ability to implement heat abatement upgrades
24 depends in large part on electrical capacity and improvements to
25 increase electrical capacity; and
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27 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic
28 has exposed the need for air purification measures in school
29 classrooms, placing further demand on electrical capacity; now,
30 therefore,
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32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
33 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
34 that the Department of Education is requested to conduct an



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1 electrical assessment on all public and conversion charter
2 schools in the State; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the requested assessment shall
5 determine whether, for each school, electrical capacity is
6 sufficient to support the installation of air conditioning units
7 and air purifying devices in classrooms, and for each classroom,
8 the assessment shall indicate the level of electrical capacity
9 needed; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
12 requested to submit a report of its findings and
13 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
14 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
15 the Regular Session of 2023; and

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

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "DKM", is written over a horizontal line.