

MAR 03 2022

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY
EXAMINING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE STATE'S SINGLE,
STATEWIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM AND THE FEASIBILITY OF
CONVERSION TO AN ALTERNATE SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the only state to have a statewide
2 school district and a single Board of Education; and
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4 WHEREAS, a primary justification for this structure of
5 public education is that a centralized school district promotes
6 the equitable distribution of resources and funding; and
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8 WHEREAS, the quality of education children receive,
9 however, is determined by many other factors beyond funding,
10 such as socioeconomic status and demographics; and
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12 WHEREAS, advocates have called for the establishment of
13 community-level school districts so that communities are better
14 able to allocate funds to address community-level, education-
15 related issues; and
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17 WHEREAS, there is currently a lack of relevant data
18 necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of the State's single,
19 statewide public school system under the Board of Education;
20 now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
24 that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a
25 study examining the effectiveness of the State's single,
26 statewide public school system under the Board of Education; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting the study, the
29 Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to:

- 30 (1) Identify educational disparities between school
31 complex areas;
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- 1 (2) Examine proposed solutions to address the identified
2 disparities between school complex areas;
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- 4 (3) Evaluate the feasibility of the development of county-
5 level school districts; and
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- 7 (4) Seek input from the Department of Education, Office of
8 Hawaiian Affairs, and to the fullest extent
9 practicable, nonprofit organizations whose mission
10 includes addressing educational disparities in the
11 State, such as HawaiiKidsCAN and Hawai'i Children's
12 Action Network; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference
15 Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and
16 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
17 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
18 the Regular Session of 2023; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
21 Resolution be transmitted to the Legislative Reference Bureau,
22 Superintendent of Education, and Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

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OFFERED BY: 

