

JAN 21 2022

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# 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            SECTION 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            SECTION 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 policies  
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.



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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: 



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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.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

