
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. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§302A- Board of education; open forums. At any public
5 meeting properly noticed pursuant to chapter 92, the board of
6 education shall include an open forum at the end of its meeting
7 agenda to afford all interested persons an opportunity to
8 present oral testimony on any matter not on the agenda; provided
9 that the testimony is related to matters over which the board of
10 education has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory
11 power."

12 SECTION 2. Section 302A-1106.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
13 is amended to read as follows:

14 "§302A-1106.5 Board of education; community [meetings-]
15 forums. [The board shall hold not less than one community
16 meeting annually in each county in] In addition to [their] its
17 regular meetings, the board shall hold not less than six



1 community forums annually to discuss and receive input from the
 2 community on public education and public library issues[~~+~~];
 3 provided that the board shall hold at least one community forum
 4 in each county. The board chairperson shall designate less than
 5 a quorum of board members to attend [~~the~~] each community
 6 [~~meetings.~~] forum. These community [~~meetings~~] forums shall not
 7 be held for the purpose of formulating educational policy. The
 8 community [~~meetings~~] forums shall be [~~exempt from sections~~
 9 ~~92-2.5, 92-7, 92-9, and 92-41;~~ provided that the board shall
 10 ~~give written public notice of each community meeting.~~ The
 11 ~~meeting notice shall indicate the date, time, and place of the~~
 12 ~~meeting, and shall be filed in the office of the lieutenant~~
 13 ~~governor and in the board's office for public inspection six~~
 14 ~~calendar days before the meeting. The notice shall also be~~
 15 ~~posted at the site of the meeting.] a permitted interaction
 16 under section 92-2.5; provided that:~~

- 17 (1) The board shall give a written public notice that
 18 indicates the date, time, and place of each community
 19 forum; provided further that the notice shall be
 20 subject to the same posting and filing requirements of
 21 board meeting notices, pursuant to section 92-7(b);



1 (2) Community forums shall be open to the public and all
2 persons shall be permitted to attend; provided further
3 that the removal of any person or persons who wilfully
4 disrupt a community forum to prevent and compromise
5 the conduct of the community forum shall not be
6 prohibited;

7 (3) The board shall afford all interested persons an
8 opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, in
9 writing or in person, on any public education or
10 public library issues at each community forum;

11 (4) No commitment relating to a vote on a matter is made
12 or sought at any community forum; and

13 (5) At the next duly noticed meeting of the board, the
14 board members shall report their attendance and the
15 matters presented and discussed at the community
16 forum."

17 SECTION 3. The board of education shall report to the
18 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
19 the regular session of 2023 on its efforts to amend its policies
20 to include an open forum at the end of its meeting agenda to



1 afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral
2 testimony on any matter not on the agenda.

3 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

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

Description:

Requires the Board to include an open forum for public comments on non-agenda items at the end of board meetings. Requires the Board of Education to hold not less than six community forums annually, with at least one forum in each county. Requires a report to the Legislature on implementing open forums. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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

