HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. **19**

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A FORENSIC AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.

1 2 3	WHEREAS, the Department of Education has the largest number of employees of our State's departments; and
4 5 6	WHEREAS, the Department is mainly funded with State General funds; and
7 8 9	WHEREAS, the Department's General Fund budget is \$2,268,810,351 for FY2023, with a total budget of \$2,641,485,725; and
10 11 12 13	WHEREAS, increased fiscal responsibility is required on the part of the Department of Education for students to receive high quality education for a reasonable cost; and
14 15 16 17 18	WHEREAS, the term "forensic audit" refers to an investigative audit in which accountants specialized in investigative accounting seek to uncover frauds, misplaced or misused funds, and financial negligence; and
19 20 21 22 23	WHEREAS, various government agencies have specialized forensic accounting departments to detect economic damages or fraud against the agency; and
24 25 26 27	WHEREAS, conducting a forensic audit of the Department of Education could reveal misplaced funds, misused funds, and negligent spending and produce a more fiscally responsible Department and educational system; now, therefore,
28 29 30 31 32	BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the Auditor is requested to conduct a forensic audit of the Department of Education to determine

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1 financial fraud, misplaced or misused funds, and financial 2 negligence; and 3 4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor is requested to report findings and recommendations to the 5 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of 6 the Regular Session of 2024; and 7 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 9 Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, Chairperson of the 10 Board of Education, and Superintendent of the Department of 11 Education. 12 13 Ari X 14 15 OFFERED BY:

MAR - 9 2023