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

H.B. NO. (7)70

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SCHOOL BUS SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the nationwide 2 shortage of bus drivers experienced by eighty per cent of school 3 districts in the country has caused route cancellations and 4 other disruptions in transportation options for students 5 attending K-12 schools in the State. The legislature further finds that while around thirty-three thousand students across 6 7 the State depend on department of education funded school buses 8 to commute to and from school, one hundred fifty out of seven 9 hundred positions for school bus drivers were left vacant in 10 September of 2022, negatively impacting student attendance 11 rates. The legislature also finds that lack of school bus 12 drivers particularly affects schools located in rural and remote 13 areas. The legislature recognizes the need for more funding 14 that will lead to the hiring of additional school bus drivers 15 and transport more students to and from schools.

16 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to the17 department of education for school bus services.

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1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so 3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and 4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal 5 year 2024-2025 for school bus services.

6 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department 7 of education for the purposes of this Act.

8 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2023

H.B. NO. 1330

Report Title:

Department of Education; School Bus Services; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of education for school bus services.

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