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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CREATE A PRIORITY LIST FOR  
REPAIRING PUBLIC SCHOOL FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS.

1           WHEREAS, properly functioning fire alarm systems are  
2 essential for public school safety; and

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4           WHEREAS, the impact of fires is significantly worsened for  
5 aging facilities; and

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7           WHEREAS, as of 2022, the average age of public school  
8 buildings in Hawaii is seventy-two years, according to the  
9 Department of Education; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, approximately twenty percent of Hawaii's two  
12 hundred fifty-seven public schools are more than one hundred  
13 years old; and

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15           WHEREAS, the National Fire Protection Association Life  
16 Safety Code, commonly known as NFPA 101, requires schools to  
17 have functioning fire alarm systems; and

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19           WHEREAS, in 2017, the Department of Education acknowledged  
20 that King Intermediate School in Kaneohe had not had a working  
21 fire alarm system for seven years; and

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23           WHEREAS, in 2022, teachers at Konawaena Elementary School  
24 on Hawaii Island reported that the school's fire alarm system  
25 has been out of service for two years; and

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27           WHEREAS, a fire broke out at Konawaena Elementary shortly  
28 after the school's fire alarm system became inoperative in 2020;  
29 and

30



# H.C.R. NO. 53

1 WHEREAS, properly functioning fire alarms can be the  
2 difference between life and death should a fire break out at a  
3 public school; now, therefore,  
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
6 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
7 Session of 2023, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
8 Education is urged to create a priority list for repairing  
9 public school fire alarm systems; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Department of Education is  
12 requested to provide the priority list, along with a timeline  
13 for completing repairs, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
14 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant  
18 Governor, Superintendent of Education, and Chairperson of the  
19 Board of Education.  
20  
21  
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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeani Joseph", is written over a horizontal line.

MAR - 8 2023

