

---

---

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE STATE  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION, TO SUBMIT A REPORT ON  
INCREASING ACCESS TO STABLE, SUITABLE, AND AFFORDABLE  
FACILITIES FOR PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii's public charter schools serve a critical  
2 role as laboratories of innovation in the State's education  
3 system; and

4  
5           WHEREAS, Hawaii's public charter schools enroll more than  
6 twelve thousand students; and

7  
8           WHEREAS, lack of funding for, and availability of, proper  
9 facilities has been a long-standing issue for charter schools  
10 nationally and locally, forcing some charter schools in the  
11 State to hold classes outdoors, on covered lanais, or in  
12 unstable temporary structures; and

13  
14           WHEREAS, public charter schools receive inadequate funding  
15 to support student learning; and

16  
17           WHEREAS, while the State Public Charter School Commission  
18 may request funding for facilities as part of its annual budget  
19 request, the amounts received in recent fiscal years have not  
20 kept pace with the cost of providing and maintaining  
21 high-quality facilities; and

22  
23           WHEREAS, despite the Department of Accounting and General  
24 Services and Department of Education being mandated to conduct  
25 biennial surveys and submit biennial reports relating to any  
26 unused state facility that may be used for public charter  
27 schools, the Departments have not identified any such facility;  
28 and

29



# H.C.R. NO. 79

1 WHEREAS, unused or underutilized state facilities would  
2 help alleviate the lack of proper facilities for public charter  
3 schools; and

4  
5 WHEREAS, in addition to the existence of unused and  
6 underutilized facilities in the State, there are various  
7 financing options, such as federal support, that can be used to  
8 help support public charter schools; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the opportunity and responsibility to  
11 maximize existing assets that are currently available to assist  
12 public charter schools to ensure all students have proper  
13 facilities for their education; now, therefore,

14  
15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
16 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
17 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Board of  
18 Education, in partnership with the State Public Charter School  
19 Commission, is requested to submit a report on increasing access  
20 to stable, suitable, and affordable facilities for public  
21 charter schools, including any proposed legislation, to the  
22 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
23 the Regular Session of 2025; and

24  
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in preparing the report, the  
26 Board of Education is requested to:

- 27  
28 (1) Assess why no unused facilities have been identified  
29 by the appropriate state departments;  
30  
31 (2) Propose changes in policy or practice in establishing  
32 an affirmative duty to connect charter schools with  
33 unused or underutilized facilities, along with  
34 increased accountability and oversight over unused  
35 facilities;  
36  
37 (3) Obtain and publish an updated list from the Department  
38 of Education of unused or underutilized facilities;  
39  
40 (4) Coordinate with the School Facilities Authority to  
41 include public charter school facilities as a priority  
42 for the Authority;



# H.C.R. NO. 79

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18

- (5) Assess the amount of federal funds that are available to benefit eligible public charter school facilities in the State but are not being accessed; and
- (6) Assess the feasibility of expanding the range of financing options for public charter schools, such as tax-exempt bonds, credit enhancement programs, and revolving loan funds; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Comptroller, Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and Executive Director of the State Public Charter School Commission.

OFFERED BY:   
MAR 06 2024