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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ENSURE THAT SCHOOL LIBRARIES AND SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA CENTERS ARE STAFFED WITH LICENSED SCHOOL LIBRARIANS AND LICENSED SCHOOL LIBRARY MEDIA SPECIALISTS.

1           WHEREAS, a well-equipped and staffed school library is  
2 essential for fostering student learning, personal growth, and  
3 academic success; and  
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5           WHEREAS, equitable access to educational resources is a  
6 fundamental right of every student, ensuring that all learners  
7 have the tools they need for academic achievement; and  
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9           WHEREAS, schools with a strong school library program and a  
10 licensed school librarian provide their students with the best  
11 chance to succeed; and  
12

13           WHEREAS, more than sixty education and library research  
14 studies demonstrate that strong school library programs staffed  
15 by licensed school librarians help students do better  
16 academically, even when other school variables are considered;  
17 and  
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19           WHEREAS, a comprehensive and professional collection  
20 development plan is essential for the effective management and  
21 curation of library resources, ensuring that the materials  
22 available are relevant, diverse, and contribute to a well-  
23 rounded education; and  
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25           WHEREAS, a central location for the school library creates  
26 an environment for expanded learning and supports diverse  
27 student interests, providing a crucial space for intellectual  
28 exploration; and  
29



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1 WHEREAS, technology and internet access in school libraries  
2 are vital components; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, licensed school librarians collaborate with  
5 teachers to enhance learning with print materials, electronic  
6 books, and electronic databases; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, licensed school librarians provide guidance,  
9 expertise, and support in fostering a love for reading and  
10 ensure students have the necessary information literacy skills  
11 necessary for college, career development, and community  
12 engagement; now, therefore,

13  
14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
15 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
16 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
17 Education is urged to ensure that school libraries and school  
18 library media centers are staffed with licensed school  
19 librarians and licensed school library media specialists; and

20  
21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
22 urged to design and equip school libraries and school library  
23 media centers so that each:

- 24  
25 (1) Ensures every student has equitable access to  
26 resources and is able to locate, access, and use  
27 resources that are organized and cataloged;  
28  
29 (2) Has a collection development plan that includes, but  
30 is not limited to, materials selection and  
31 deselection, a challenged materials procedure, and an  
32 intellectual and academic freedom statement; and  
33  
34 (3) Is housed in a central location that provides an  
35 environment for expanded learning and supports a  
36 variety of student interests; and  
37  
38 (4) Has technology and internet access; and  
39

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
41 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,

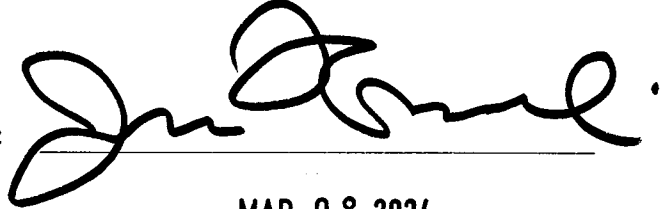


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1 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of  
2 Education, and State Librarian.

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OFFERED BY:

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

MAR 08 2024

