A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR CHARTER SCHOOLS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. This Act is recommended by the governor for
- 2 immediate passage in accordance with section 9 of article VII of
- 3 the Constitution of the State of Hawaii.
- 4 SECTION 2. The legislature finds that the department of
- 5 education is required to provide proportional funding to charter
- 6 schools based on their student enrollment. While the overall
- 7 enrollment for the department of education has gone up for the
- 8 2023-2024 school year, the growth rate for public charter
- 9 schools has grown even faster at four per cent higher than
- 10 projected. One factor that explains the sudden increased public
- 11 charter school enrollment is the growing need for temporary
- 12 school options in Lahaina as a result of the destruction
- 13 incurred by the devastating August 2023 wildfires. As a result
- 14 of the increased charter school enrollment, the amount of
- 15 funding for charter schools is less than what is required.

- 1 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to make an emergency
- 2 appropriation to the department of education to cover its
- 3 funding requirements for charter schools.
- 4 SECTION 3. In accordance with section 9 of article VII of
- 5 the Hawaii State Constitution and sections 37-91 and 37-93,
- 6 Hawaii Revised Statutes, the legislature has determined that the
- 7 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 has
- 8 already been exceeded by \$ or per cent. The
- 9 appropriations contained in this Act will cause the state
- 10 general fund expenditure ceiling for fiscal year 2023-2024 to be
- 11 further exceeded by \$ or per cent. This
- 12 declaration takes into account the additional general fund
- 13 appropriation authorized for fiscal year 2023-2024 in this Act
- 14 only. The reasons for exceeding the general fund expenditure
- 15 ceiling are that:
- 16 (1) The appropriations made in this Act are necessary to
- serve the public interest; and
- 18 (2) The appropriations made in this Act meet the needs
- 19 addressed by this Act.
- 20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
- 21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$6,600,000 or so much

- 1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the
- 2 department of education to provide funding for charter schools.
- 3 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 4 education for the purposes of this Act.
- 5 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Report Title:

DOE; Emergency Appropriation; Expenditure Ceiling

Description:

Makes an emergency appropriation to the Department of Education for charter school operations. Declares that the general fund expenditure ceiling is exceeded. (SD1)

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