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SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REQUIRE THE INSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL LITERACY IN THE STATEWIDE PUBLIC SCHOOL CURRICULUM.

WHEREAS, the educational system has traditionally assumed that students will acquire important financial skills from their families; however, not all students are receiving the necessary instruction in financial skills that are crucial for their future success; and

WHEREAS, parents and guardians play a crucial role in shaping their children's financial habits and attitudes; however, many adults also struggle with financial literacy, making it challenging for them to provide adequate financial guidance and support to their children; and

WHEREAS, the lack of financial literacy can contribute to poor financial decision-making within families, further exacerbating the cycle of financial insecurity; and

WHEREAS, the lack of financial literacy in students presents a significant barrier for individuals seeking to achieve financial prosperity and security; and

WHEREAS, personal financial education is essential to ensure that the youth of the State are prepared to manage money, credit, and debt; and to be responsible workers, heads of households, investors, entrepreneurs, business leaders, and citizens; and

WHEREAS, it is of the utmost importance to educate Hawaii's youth in economical and financial matters to prepare them for financial independence through the development of fiscal responsibility and financial management skills; and

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WHEREAS, although the Department of Education offers a financial literacy elective course, it is not required; and WHEREAS, some amount of basic skills and knowledge of financial literacy should be required for all students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education is requested to require the instruction of financial literacy in the statewide public school curriculum; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the instruction of financial literacy be at both middle and high school levels and also provide students with the basic information necessary to make sound financial decisions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education also is requested to explore career and technical education and job training opportunities for students that incorporate financial literacy learning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education also is requested to promote opportunities for financial literacy activities for family and guardians of students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY: Dan Will

