

MAR 08 2024

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE  
PLAN FOR THE REINSTATEMENT OF CANCELLED SCHOOL BUS SERVICE  
ROUTES.

1           WHEREAS, the availability of school bus services is  
2 essential to student attendance; and  
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4           WHEREAS, school bus services are particularly crucial for  
5 families who live in rural and remote areas, as well as students  
6 who come from socioeconomically disadvantaged communities; and  
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8           WHEREAS, the Department of Education provides bus services  
9 in neighborhoods across the State to ensure broad access to  
10 educational opportunities for Hawaii's students, serving  
11 approximately twelve thousand student riders on Oahu and  
12 thirteen thousand student riders on the neighbor islands; and  
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14           WHEREAS, currently, there is a nationwide shortage of  
15 school bus drivers; and  
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17           WHEREAS, due to the shortage of qualified school bus  
18 drivers in the State, student bus transportation services have  
19 been completely or partially suspended at ten Oahu high schools  
20 and four schools on Kauai in the 2023-2024 school year; and  
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22           WHEREAS, suspensions of additional school bus service  
23 routes in other counties of the State are anticipated if the  
24 shortage of qualified school bus drivers continues; and  
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26           WHEREAS, a comprehensive plan to reinstate previously  
27 cancelled school bus service routes is needed to ensure that all  
28 students in Hawaii are able to use school bus services to arrive  
29 at public schools on time; now, therefore,  
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31           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
32 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,



1 that the Department of Education is urged to develop a  
2 comprehensive plan for the reinstatement of cancelled school bus  
3 service routes; and  
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
6 requested to submit the comprehensive plan, including any  
7 findings, recommendations, and proposed legislation, to the  
8 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
9 the Regular Session of 2025; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Resolution be transmitted to Chairperson of the Board of  
13 Education and the Superintendent of Education.  
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15  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'P. J. ...', is written over a horizontal line.