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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the American Academy  
2 of Pediatrics recommends that the first school bell ring no  
3 earlier than 8:30 a.m. nationwide. Early school start times are  
4 associated with students sleeping less, and, along with  
5 irritability and fatigue, students who sleep less may experience  
6 difficulty paying attention in class, negatively affecting  
7 students' academic performance. In Hawaii, all but five public  
8 high schools begin their school days before 8:30 a.m.

9           The purpose of this Act is to require all public  
10 elementary, middle, and high schools to start school days no  
11 earlier than 8:30 a.m.

12           SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14 and to read as follows:

15           "§302A-           School day start time. (a) Notwithstanding  
16 any other law to the contrary, beginning with the       -       school  
17 year, all public elementary, middle, and high school classes in



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1 the State shall begin no earlier than 8:30 a.m.; provided that  
2 this section shall not apply to charter schools.

3 (b) The board, in its discretion, may grant a waiver to  
4 any school that is subject to this section. The board shall  
5 adopt policies and procedures to grant a waiver under this  
6 subsection.

7 (c) This section shall not exempt any school from the  
8 requirements under section 302A-251."

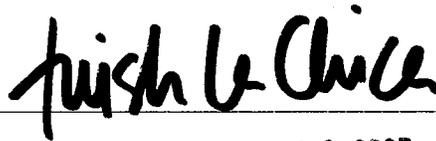
9 SECTION 3. The department of education shall adjust  
10 state-provided school bus and school meal schedules for public  
11 schools to align with the class start times set forth in section 2  
12 of this Act.

13 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 16 2025



# H.B. NO. 333

**Report Title:**

DOE; School Classes; Start Time

**Description:**

Beginning with the - school year, requires public elementary, middle, and high school classes to start no earlier than 8:30 a.m. Requires the Department of Education to adjust state-provided bus and school meal schedules accordingly.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

