
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REPORT ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF ALOHA-BASED CIVIC EDUCATION INITIATIVES
IN HAWAII'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

1 WHEREAS, the "Aloha Spirit" is a unique cultural attribute
2 of Hawaii, embodying the principles of kindness (Aloha Akahai),
3 unity (Aloha Lokahi), humility (Aloha Ha'aha'a), patience (Aloha
4 Ahonui), and a deep sense of love and respect for others; and
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6 WHEREAS, these values are enshrined in section 5-7.5,
7 Hawaii Revised Statutes, which recognizes the Aloha Spirit as
8 "the coordination of mind and heart within each person" and
9 emphasizes cooperation, empathy, and understanding; and
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11 WHEREAS, political polarization has intensified across the
12 nation, creating significant barriers to constructive dialogue
13 and civic engagement; and
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15 WHEREAS, the principles of the Aloha Spirit offer a
16 powerful framework for fostering respectful discourse, active
17 listening, and collaborative problem-solving, which are
18 essential skills for participatory democracy; and
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20 WHEREAS, integrating the Aloha Spirit into civics education
21 can help equip students with the tools to engage in political
22 and social discussions in a manner that promotes unity and
23 mutual understanding; and
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25 WHEREAS, a comprehensive approach to civics education that
26 incorporates the Aloha Spirit can empower students to become
27 engaged citizens who approach governance and public service with
28 empathy and integrity; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education convened the Civic
2 Learning and Engagement Task Force, at the direction of the
3 Board of Education, to provide recommendations to the Board on
4 strengthening and elevating civic learning, and to objectively
5 measure knowledge, skills, and participation; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force
8 published its findings and recommendations on March 2024; and

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10 WHEREAS, the findings and recommendations of the Civic
11 Learning and Engagement Task Force are now informing strategic
12 planning and implementation efforts within the Department of
13 Education that will strengthen and elevate civic learning; now,
14 therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
17 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
18 of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
19 is requested to prepare and submit a report to the Legislature
20 on the implementation of aloha-based civic education initiatives
21 in Hawaii's public schools, based on the recommendations made by
22 the Department's Civic Learning and Engagement Task Force; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
25 requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
26 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
27 2026 on the implementation of the Civic Learning and Engagement
28 Task Force's recommendations, including efforts to integrate the
29 principles of the Aloha Spirit into civics education and any
30 additional strategies to enhance civic learning in Hawaii's
31 public schools; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and
35 Superintendent of Education.

