

MAR 07 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT
A STATEWIDE FINANCIAL LITERACY CURRICULA PLAN FOR PUBLIC
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, financial literacy is a critical skill for
2 ensuring personal and societal financial stability; and
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4 WHEREAS, many students graduate without essential knowledge
5 of financial literacy, including budgeting, saving, investing,
6 or managing credit; and
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8 WHEREAS, without a foundation in financial literacy skills,
9 students will be ill equipped to achieve financial independence;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, financial literacy empowers students to
13 effectively manage a budget, which allows students to make
14 informed decisions about spending and saving with the State's
15 high cost of living; and
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17 WHEREAS, ensuring students are equipped with financial
18 literacy knowledge and skills will allow graduates to become
19 globally competitive and locally committed; now, therefore,
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21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
23 that the Department of Education is requested to develop and
24 implement a statewide financial literacy curricula plan for
25 public high school students; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
28 requested to review and determine into which courses to
29 integrate personal financial literacy; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, beginning with the 2026-2027
32 school year, all public high schools are requested to offer a
33 standalone course in financial literacy as a requirement for
34 graduation; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the curriculum is requested to
2 include:

- 3 (1) Basic budgeting and financial planning;
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- 5 (2) Saving, investing, and retirement planning;
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- 8 (3) Credit management, including credit scoring and debt
9 management;
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- 11 (4) Taxes and tax planning;
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- 13 (5) Loans and interest, including mortgages, car loans,
14 and student loans;
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- 16 (6) Fraud prevention and identity theft; and
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- 18 (7) Economic principles and entrepreneurship; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that schools are requested to fully
21 integrate financial literacy topics into existing coursework,
22 including Personal Transition Plans, utilizing the Department of
23 Education's financial literacy curriculum; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
26 requested to provide professional development opportunities for
27 teachers, including:

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- 29 (1) Workshops, summer programs, and online resources;
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- 31 (2) Approved training from national and state-level
32 financial education organizations;
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- 34 (3) Transition support, including phased training
35 schedules to ensure teachers are prepared to implement
36 financial literacy curriculum during the 2026-2027
37 school year; and
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- 39 (4) Pilot programs in select schools during the 2025-2026
40 school year to test and refine the financial literacy
41 curriculum; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
2 requested to collaborate with public agencies, private
3 organizations, and nonprofit organizations to:

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5 (1) Develop interactive and engaging teaching materials;
6 and

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8 (2) Provide online tools and curriculum guides; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
11 requested to:

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13 (1) By December 31, 2025, finalize curriculum guidelines
14 and professional development plans and publish an
15 implementation plan for schools;

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17 (2) Establish a dedicated position within the Office of
18 Curriculum and Instructional Design to oversee the
19 implementation of financial literacy programs;

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21 (3) Ensure consistency and quality in the curriculum
22 through a review process every three years; and

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24 (4) Solicit feedback from educators, students, and
25 financial experts to refine and improve the financial
26 literacy curriculum; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education is
29 requested to:

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31 (1) Adopt administrative rules pursuant to chapter 91,
32 Hawaii Revised Statutes, necessary to implement
33 financial literacy curriculum; and

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35 (2) Publish approved financial literacy resources and
36 curriculum standards on its official website; and
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, beginning with the 2026-2027
39 school year, all public high schools are requested to:

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41 (1) Implement a financial literacy graduation requirement;
42 and



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(2) Establish a dedicated transition support team to provide on-site assistance during the first year of implementation; and

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

OFFERED BY: *Michelle A. Fiddis*

