
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Education manages the largest
2 public infrastructure portfolio in the State, including hundreds
3 of public school campuses and facilities that require ongoing
4 maintenance, renovation, and construction; and

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6 WHEREAS, capital improvement projects are critical to
7 ensuring that public school facilities are safe, functional,
8 modern, and capable of supporting student learning and
9 educational outcomes; and

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11 WHEREAS, the State has appropriated significant funding
12 over time for school facility planning, design, construction,
13 and deferred maintenance projects; and

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15 WHEREAS, concerns have been raised regarding the size and
16 duration of the Department of Education's capital improvement
17 project backlog and the pace at which projects are implemented
18 and completed; and

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20 WHEREAS, policymakers and the public would benefit from a
21 comprehensive and transparent audit of the Department of
22 Education's capital improvement program; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Office of the Auditor is authorized to conduct
25 performance audits of state agencies and programs to improve
26 accountability, transparency, and effectiveness in the use of
27 public funds; now, therefore,

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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,
31 that the Office of the Auditor is requested to conduct a
32 comprehensive performance audit of the Department of Education's
33 capital improvement program; and



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2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the audit is requested to
3 include but not be limited to:

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5 (1) Any policies and procedures the Department of
6 Education has adopted to achieve the goals of the
7 program, including how capital improvement projects
8 are prioritized and the internal controls to eliminate
9 or reduce risks that may delay capital improvement
10 projects;
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12 (2) An assessment of the Department of Education's
13 performance relative to those policies and procedures;
14 and
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16 (3) A comprehensive audit of any annual funds for any
17 capital improvement projects that have lapsed in the
18 previous year;

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20 provided that for the purposes of the audit, "capital
21 improvement project" is requested to mean any project for which
22 the Legislature has appropriated funds to the Department of
23 Education as a capital improvement project; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor is
26 requested to submit a report of its findings and
27 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
28 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
29 the Regular Session of 2027; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chairperson of the
33 Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and State
34 Auditor.

