

JAN 23 2026

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO MAKE AVAILABLE
RECREATIONAL FACILITIES TO THE PUBLIC DURING NON-PEAK HOURS
AND NON-SCHOOL DAYS.

1 WHEREAS, as of 2021, twenty-nine percent of United States
2 residents do not live within walkable distance of a recreational
3 amenity or local park; and

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5 WHEREAS, according to a recent survey, eighty-seven percent
6 of people want their local and state governments to ensure
7 equitable access to park and recreation amenities; and

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9 WHEREAS, residents of Hawaii face similar challenges
10 accessing public recreational facilities including pools, gyms,
11 and fields; and

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13 WHEREAS, the lack of access to public recreational
14 facilities directly mirrors income inequality, with rural and
15 low-income communities within the State facing the greatest
16 barriers to participating in physical activities; and

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18 WHEREAS, pursuant to chapter 39, Hawaii Administrative
19 Rules, Hawaii's public school facilities are required to be
20 available for public use as long as the requested activities do
21 not interfere with normal school operations, and an online
22 application is required to be completed at least ten days prior
23 to the requested date of use; and

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25 WHEREAS, this body finds that the State should expand
26 access for unrestricted use of public school facilities to
27 address inequity in public recreation facility access; now,
28 therefore,

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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,
32 that the Department of Education is requested to open public



1 school recreational facilities for public use during non-peak
2 hours and non-school use days; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:


By Request

