
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO CONVENE A SHARED-
DECISION MAKING COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN TO
ESTABLISH A K-12 KAIAPUNI SCHOOL IN KAPOLEI.

1 WHEREAS, the State has a duty to ensure access to ‘Ōlelo
2 Hawai‘i education pursuant to article X, section 4, of the
3 Constitution of the State of Hawai‘i, which requires the State to
4 "promote the study of Hawaiian culture, history, and language";
5 and

6
7 WHEREAS, the establishment of Kaiapuni schools, or Hawaiian
8 language immersion schools, which educate in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i, is
9 one way the State is intentionally adhering to its
10 constitutional obligations and fulfilling its commitment to
11 preserving Hawaiian language for future generations; and

12
13 WHEREAS, accordingly, the Board of Education is
14 implementing a Kaiapuni Strategic Plan to grow Kaiapuni programs
15 to meet demand and expand access across the State; and

16
17 WHEREAS, there are only three Kaiapuni schools on O‘ahu that
18 serve students in grades kindergarten through twelve, Ke Kula
19 Kaiapuni ‘O Pū‘ōhala and Ke Kula ‘O Samuel M. Kamakau in Kāne‘ohe
20 and Ke Kula Kaiapuni ‘O Ānuenue in Honolulu; and

21
22 WHEREAS, Kapolei High School currently only offers Kaiapuni
23 education for grade nine, and Kapolei Middle School only offers
24 Kaiapuni education for grades seven and eight; and

25
26 WHEREAS, many students in the ‘Ewa land district and the
27 surrounding land districts of Wai‘anae and Waialua are forced to
28 commute to Honolulu to pursue Kaiapuni education; and
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1 WHEREAS, forty-two percent of Ke Kula Kaiapuni 'O Ānuenue
2 students who travel to school come from the 'Ewa and Wai'anae
3 areas; and
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5 WHEREAS, this creates significant barriers for students in
6 continuing Hawaiian language education and leaves many students
7 who reside outside of Honolulu without a clear pathway to
8 continue their Kaiapuni education cohesively and throughout high
9 school; and
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11 WHEREAS, the neighborhood boards of Pearl City,
12 Makakilo/Kapolei/Honokai Hale, and 'Ewa have all adopted
13 resolutions in support of establishing a K-12 self-contained
14 Hawaiian immersion school in Kapolei; and
15

16 WHEREAS, a shared decision-making committee is a
17 collaborative process where stakeholders collectively make
18 decisions and facilitate planning; and
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20 WHEREAS, establishing a shared decision-making committee
21 comprised of Hawaiian immersion educators, community members,
22 parents, and administrators will facilitate effective action
23 planning and resource allocation as well as ensure the K-12
24 Kaiapuni in Kapolei meets the unique needs of current and future
25 students; now, therefore,
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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
29 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
30 is requested to convene a shared decision-making committee to
31 develop an action plan to establish a K-12 Kaiapuni school in
32 Kapolei; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the shared decision-making
35 committee is requested to consist of eleven members, serving for
36 two-year terms, as follows:
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- 38 (1) The Superintendent of Education, or the
39 Superintendent's designee;
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- 1 (2) Principals from relevant middle schools and high
2 schools, such as Kapolei Middle School and Kapolei
3 High School, or their designees;
4
- 5 (3) Three current Kaiapuni teachers from schools such as:
6
7 (A) Kapolei Middle School;
8
9 (B) Kapolei High School; and
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11 (C) A feeder elementary immersion school such as
12 Waiiau Elementary School or Nānākuli Elementary
13 School;
14
- 15 (4) The Dual Chancellor for Leeward Community College and
16 the University of Hawai'i-West O'ahu, or the
17 Chancellor's designee;
18
- 19 (5) A professor or administrator from either Leeward
20 Community College or the University of Hawai'i-West
21 O'ahu with experience in education and teacher
22 training; and
23
- 24 (6) Three community members as follows:
25
26 (A) Two members of relevant community-based, school-
27 based, or cultural nonprofit organizations; and
28
29 (B) One parent of a current student of Ke Kula
30 Kaiapuni 'O Kapolei; and
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the action plan is requested to
33 outline goals, objectives, and strategies necessary to achieve a
34 new Kaiapuni K-12 school in Kapolei, including, but not limited
35 to, the following:

- 36
37 (1) Facility planning and site selection;
38
39 (2) Kumu Kaiapuni recruitment and retention;
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41 (3) Curriculum and instruction planning;
42



1 (4) Resource allocation policies;

2
3 (5) Recommendations to the Department of Education to
4 standardize, streamline, and facilitate the
5 establishment or expansion of new or existing Kaiapuni
6 schools statewide; and

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8 (6) Any additional policies as determined by the shared
9 decision-making committee; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the action plan is requested to
12 include a process for phasing in Kaiapuni education by:

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14 (1) Addressing the hiring and recruitment of qualified
15 teachers proficient in olelo Hawaii;

16
17 (2) Securing a permanent site for a K-12 Kaiapuni school
18 in Kapolei to be used by kindergarten, first, and
19 second grades by the 2027-2028 school year;

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21 (3) Integrating grades three, four, five, and six by the
22 2028-2029 school year; and

23
24 (4) Integrating middle school and high school students
25 once all other grades are phased in; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
28 requested to allocate four faculty positions and one
29 administrative position to support Kaiapuni education in the
30 2027-2028 school year and additional faculty and administrative
31 positions in the following school years based on enrollment
32 numbers of current and potential Kaiapuni students that live in
33 the 'Ewa, Waialua, and Wai'anae land districts; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the decision-making committee
36 is requested to submit a progress report on the status of the
37 action plan to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior
38 to the convening of the Regular Sessions of 2027 and 2028; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the decision-making committee
41 is requested to submit a final report of its findings and
42 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the



1 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
2 the Regular Session of 2029; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
6 Board of Education; Superintendent of Education; Dual Chancellor
7 for Leeward Community College and the University of Hawai'i-West
8 O'ahu; and Campbell-Kapolei Complex Area Superintendent.

