
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO SUPPORT EXPANDED COMMUNITY
ACCESS TO OUTDOOR PUBLIC SCHOOL FACILITIES AND GROUNDS
DURING NON-SCHOOL HOURS.

1 WHEREAS, public schools are vital community institutions
2 that serve students, their families, and local communities; and
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4 WHEREAS, many public school campuses across Hawaii include
5 outdoor facilities, such as playgrounds, athletic fields,
6 basketball courts, tracks, and open green spaces, that can
7 provide safe and accessible places for physical activity and
8 community connection; and
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10 WHEREAS, access to outdoor recreational spaces is essential
11 to supporting the health and well-being of Hawaii's keiki and
12 their families; and
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14 WHEREAS, many communities across the State experience
15 limited access to parks, recreational facilities, and safe
16 places for youth to play, particularly in dense urban areas and
17 neighborhoods where public open space is scarce; and
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19 WHEREAS, public health organizations, youth advocates, and
20 community groups across Hawaii have identified expanded access
21 to safe outdoor recreational spaces as an important strategy for
22 improving youth health and supporting more active communities;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, expanding community access to existing public
26 school outdoor facilities during non-school hours, including
27 weekends, represents an opportunity to maximize the use of
28 public infrastructure to promote healthier and more active
29 communities; and
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H.C.R. NO. 99

1 WHEREAS, shared use of school recreational spaces has been
 2 successfully implemented in jurisdictions across the United
 3 States as a strategy to increase physical activity, strengthen
 4 community ties, and support childhood development; and

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 6 WHEREAS, policies that encourage community use of outdoor
 7 school spaces can help foster stronger relationships between
 8 schools and the communities they serve, while supporting broader
 9 public health goals; now, therefore,

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 11 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 12 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
 13 of 2026, the Senate concurring, that the Department of Education
 14 is urged to support efforts to expand community access to
 15 outdoor public school facilities and grounds during non-school
 16 hours, including opportunities for weekend access, where
 17 appropriate and feasible; and

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 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 20 encouraged to explore opportunities to facilitate community use
 21 of outdoor school spaces in a manner that balances respect for
 22 school operations and positive community engagement; and

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 24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
 25 encouraged to engage with interested stakeholders about
 26 exploring opportunities that allow public school campuses to
 27 serve as spaces that promote physical activity for youth and
 28 community health; and

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

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OFFERED BY: 
 MAR 12 2026

