
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. (a) The department of education shall
2 establish a two-year student-authored book publication pilot
3 program in which students research, write, and publish original
4 works. The pilot program shall begin in the 2026-2027 school
5 year and be completed no later than the conclusion of the
6 2027-2028 school year. The pilot program shall be designed to
7 strengthen literacy, analytical thinking, and communication
8 skills; increase student engagement and confidence; support
9 students' academic progression and preparation for postsecondary
10 education; and foster connections to culture and community.

11 (b) The student-authored book publication pilot program
12 may be conducted at up to five Kalihi public elementary schools
13 and up to five Nanakuli-Waianae public elementary schools on an
14 opt-in basis and made available to students in grades four,
15 five, and six; provided that the pilot program shall be
16 integrated into the existing grade level curricula of
17 participating schools as a capstone.



1 (c) Under the student-authored book publication pilot
2 program:

3 (1) Each teacher for grades four through six at
4 participating schools may select a topic for their
5 class relating to Hawaiian culture, the local
6 community, or a personal story; and

7 (2) Using a classroom student book publishing program,
8 each student shall write and illustrate a standard
9 size online book on the selected topic; provided that
10 the dimensions and length of the book shall be
11 determined by the teacher according to available
12 funds.

13 (d) Each teacher at participating schools shall receive a
14 budget to implement the student-authored book publication pilot
15 program in their classroom.

16 (e) The principal of each participating school shall
17 submit a report on the student-authored book publication pilot
18 program to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to
19 the convening of the regular session of 2029. The report shall
20 include:



1 (1) Assessments of the pilot program's implementation,
2 student outcomes, and the feasibility of continuing or
3 expanding the pilot program; and

4 (2) Additional findings and recommendations.

5 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$50,000 or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for the
8 establishment of the student-authored book publication pilot
9 program, to be distributed to participating schools based on the
10 number of students and cost of books.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
12 education for the purposes of this Act; provided that the sum
13 appropriated shall only be expended if private sources supply
14 matching funds of not less than twenty-five per cent of the
15 appropriated sum; provided further that any unencumbered funds
16 shall lapse to the credit of the general fund on June 30, 2028.

17 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.



Report Title:

DOE; Student-Authored Book Publication Pilot Program; Kalihi; Nanakuli-Waianae; Grades Four, Five, Six; Report; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Education to establish a two-year Student-Authored Book Publication Pilot Program. Authorizes the Pilot Program to be conducted for fourth, fifth, and sixth graders at up to five Kalihi public elementary schools and up to five Nanakuli-Waianae public elementary schools to be integrated into existing curricula. Appropriates funds. (CD1)

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