
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 one-year student-authored book publication pilot
3 program in which students research, write, and publish original
4 works. The program shall be designed to strengthen literacy,
5 analytical thinking, and communication skills; increase student
6 engagement and confidence; support students' academic
7 progression and preparation for postsecondary education; and
8 foster connections to culture and community.

9 (b) The pilot program shall be conducted at Kalihi public
10 elementary schools and made available to students in grade five;
11 provided that the program shall be integrated into the existing
12 grade five curricula of participating schools as a capstone.

13 (c) Under the student-authored book publication pilot
14 program:

15 (1) Each teacher shall select a topic for their grade five
16 class relating to Hawaiian culture or the local
17 community;



1 (2) Each student shall write and illustrate a book on the
2 selected topic; provided that the dimensions and
3 length of the book shall be determined by the
4 department of education according to available funds;
5 and

6 (3) The department of education shall facilitate the
7 collection, printing, binding, and return of the
8 student-authored books.

9 (d) The department of education shall contract with a
10 third party in accordance with chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised
11 Statutes, to implement the pilot program, including to fulfill
12 its duties pursuant to subsection (c)(3).

13 (e) The department of education shall submit a report on
14 the student-authored book publication pilot program to the
15 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
16 the regular session of 2028. The report shall include:

17 (1) Assessments of the program's implementation, student
18 outcomes, and the feasibility of continuing or
19 expanding the program; and

20 (2) Additional findings, recommendations, and any proposed
21 legislation.



1 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2026-2027 for
4 the establishment of the student-authored book publication pilot
5 program.

6 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
7 education for the purposes of this Act.

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



S.B. NO. 2877 S.D. 1

Report Title:

DOE; Student-Authored Book Publication Pilot Program; Kalihi; Grade Five; Report; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Education to establish a one-year Student-Authored Book Publication Pilot Program for fifth graders at Kalihi public elementary schools to be integrated into existing curricula. Requires a report to the legislature. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

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