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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO  
STUDENTS ON HOW TO PREREGISTER TO VOTE BEFORE REACHING  
VOTING AGE.

1 WHEREAS, civic participation is fundamental to a healthy  
2 democracy and young adults aged eighteen to twenty-four  
3 represent a growing portion of the State's electorate; and  
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5 WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau,  
6 fewer than forty percent of young adults participated in state  
7 elections from 2014 to 2024; and  
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9 WHEREAS, voting at a young age creates and empowers  
10 lifelong voters, as data shows that after an individual votes  
11 once, the individual often becomes a habitual voter; and  
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13 WHEREAS, this lack of youth participation is primarily the  
14 result of informational and time barriers, which have pronounced  
15 effects on youth from low-income backgrounds, who are twice as  
16 likely to miss registration deadlines or run out of time; and  
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18 WHEREAS, by making information on voter preregistration and  
19 registration more accessible for people sixteen years of age and  
20 older, the State can empower a new generation of lifelong  
21 voters; and  
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23 WHEREAS, public schools, including charter schools, are  
24 excellent venues for preregistering and registering students to  
25 vote, since schools already require participation in a democracy  
26 and civics class for graduation, and therefore have the  
27 foundation to help increase civic engagement; now, therefore,  
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the  
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of



1 Education is urged to provide information to students on how to  
2 preregister to vote before reaching voting age; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
5 urged to provide specific information regarding:

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7 (1) Voting eligibility information and guidance published  
8 by the Office of Elections;

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10 (2) Procedures for properly completing and submitting a  
11 voter registration application to the State's online  
12 voter registration system, the appropriate County  
13 Clerk, or through other lawful means;

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15 (3) Information on opportunities to register to vote; and

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17 (4) Information on opportunities for students sixteen  
18 years of age or older to volunteer at a voter service  
19 center, including information on how to sign up  
20 through the Office of Elections website; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
23 requested to make available paper copies of voter registration  
24 and preregistration application forms; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
27 requested to make available resources describing accessible  
28 voting options and accommodations to students who require  
29 assistance to vote due to a disability, visual or hearing  
30 impairment, or inability to read or write; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is  
33 requested to designate the last two full weeks in September of  
34 each year as "high school voter registration and preregistration  
35 weeks", and include activities to:

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37 (1) Raise civic awareness among high school students;

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39 (2) Encourage eligible students ages sixteen or seventeen  
40 to preregister or register to vote; and



1 (3) Facilitate interactions with state or county election  
2 employees or officials who can preregister and  
3 register students at school campuses, to the extent  
4 available; and  
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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of  
8 Education, Chairperson of the Board of Education, and Chief  
9 Election Officer.

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