

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO OFFER A BASIC
SWIMMING COURSE IN EITHER PRIMARY OR SECONDARY EDUCATION
LEVELS.

1 WHEREAS, the State currently has the second highest rate of
2 deaths by drowning for residents in the country and drowning is
3 the leading cause of death for children in the State; and
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5 WHEREAS, the State's high cost of living leaves many
6 parents without the time or financial resources to ensure that
7 their children acquire water safety and swimming skills; and
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9 WHEREAS, the absence of equitable swim education in the
10 State has increased the rate of drownings and has left many
11 keiki without the skills necessary to safely enjoy the water;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and
15 Prevention and the United States National Water Safety Action
16 Plan, increasing access to basic swimming and water safety
17 skills training for all persons could reduce disparities in
18 unintentional drowning deaths; now, therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
23 Education is encouraged to offer a basic swimming course in
24 either primary or secondary education levels; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of
28 Education and Chairperson of the Board of Education.
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OFFERED BY: 

