

A Bill for an Act Relating to District School Advisory Councils.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

**SECTION 1. Purpose.** The purposes of this Act are (1) to avoid confusion between the usages of terms relating to the district school advisory councils and the board of education, and (2) to have the district school advisory council members be appointed without consideration of their party affiliation or preference, or nonpartisanship.

**SECTION 2.** Chapter 296, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended as follows:

1. Section 296-7 is amended to read as follows:

**“Sec. 296-7 School district advisory councils; duties.** (a) There shall be a school district advisory council in each school district. The number of members on the school district advisory council in the respective school districts shall be as follows:

First school district (Hawaii): seven members;

Second school district (Maui): five members;

Third school district (Honolulu): five members;

Fourth school district (Central Oahu): five members;

Fifth school district (Leeward Oahu): five members;

Sixth school district (Windward Oahu): five members;

Seventh school district (Kauai): five members.

(b) Any law to the contrary notwithstanding, the governor shall appoint the members of each school district advisory council. Such appointments shall be made without consideration of the appointee's party affiliation or preference, or nonpartisanship. Each councilor shall serve for a term commencing upon his appointment and ending upon the expiration of the term of office of the governor. In addition to the number of members set forth herein, each member of the board of education shall be

an ex officio, nonvoting member of the school district advisory councils in his at-large school board district.

(c) Each school district advisory council shall serve in an advisory capacity to the board of education and to the member or members of the board of education from its school district.

Each school district advisory council shall:

- (1) Inform the board of education on educational matters of interest to the school district;
- (2) Disseminate information and interpret decisions and policies of the board of education to the people of the school district;
- (3) Act as an advisory body to the district superintendent of each school district; and upon his request, assist him in disseminating information, interpreting decisions and policies, and in obtaining public reaction;
- (4) Present and explain local or school district public concern in policies and administrative regulations of the department of education;
- (5) Work with and among the several other school district advisory councils to insure cooperation on educational matters of mutual interest and concern; and
- (6) Advise the board of education in the development of policies as the board of education may request from time to time."

2. Section 296-8 is amended to read as follows:

**"Sec. 296-8 Eligibility; expenses.** Each councilor appointed by the governor shall be a registered voter of his school board district and a resident of the school district in which he is appointed to serve. No councilor shall hold any other public office under the state or county governments. The term "public office", for the purposes of this section, shall not include notaries public, reserve police officers, officers of emergency organizations for civilian defense or disaster relief or county charter commissions.

Councilors shall serve without pay but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses while attending meetings and while in the discharge of their responsibilities. Payments for expenses shall be made by warrants signed by the chairman of the school district advisory council."

3. Section 296-9 is amended to read as follows:

**"Sec. 296-9 Organizations; quorum; meetings.** Each school district advisory council shall elect its own chairman and may elect other officers that may be necessary to effectively carry out its functions.

The provisions of part I of chapter 92 shall apply to all meetings of the council. Meetings shall be called and held, at the call of the chairman or a quorum, as often as may be necessary to carry out its functions."

4. Section 296-10 is amended to read as follows:

**"Sec. 296-10 Educational districts not applicable.** The educational districts established by section 4-1 shall not be applicable to nor alter the school board or departmental school districts established by section 13-1, or the school districts established for administrative purposes by the department."

SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is

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underscored.\*

**SECTION 4.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved May 22, 1980.)

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\*The text has been edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5, authorizing omission of the brackets, bracketed material, and underscoring.