ACT 190

H.B. NO. 1086

A Bill for an Act Relating to Education.

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

SECTION 1. Section 302A-1128, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

- "(b) The department shall regulate the courses of study to be pursued in all grades of public schools and classify them by methods the department deems proper; provided that:
 - (1) The course of study and instruction [in the first eight grades] shall be [so] regulated [that not less than fifty per cent of the study and instruction in each school day is devoted to the oral expression, the written composition, and the spelling of the English language, except for special projects using the Hawaiian language as approved by the board;] in accordance with the statewide performance standards established under section 302A-201;
 - (2) All pupils shall be progressively competent in the use of computer technology; and

(3) The course of study and instruction for the first twelve grades shall enable all students to meet progressive standards of competency in a language in addition to English.

For the purposes of this subsection, the terms "progressively competent in the use of computer technology" and "progressive standards of competency in a language in addition to English" shall be defined by the board through rules adopted pursuant to chapter 91, with reference to relevant national or international standards of competency. Notwithstanding paragraphs (2) and (3) to the contrary, the board, through rules adopted pursuant to chapter 91, shall formulate statewide educational policies allowing the superintendent to exempt certain students from the requirements of paragraphs (2) and (3)."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval. (Approved July 2, 1999.)