

ACT 142

S.B. NO. 2893

A Bill for an Act Relating to a School Supply Subsidy Pilot Program.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (Title I), provides federal financial assistance to local educational agencies and schools with high percentages of children from low-income families to help ensure educational success.

The legislature further finds that a pilot program to subsidize school supplies for schools composed entirely of students eligible for participation in Title I, such as Naalehu elementary school, would be useful to identify methods for relieving the financial burden of education on low-income families. Many students who attend Naalehu elementary school live in rural areas across Kau and experience geographical challenges, such as limited opportunities and isolation from educational resources.

The legislature additionally finds that, as an exemplar, based on the school supplies list for the 2021-2022 school year at Naalehu elementary school and the average cost of school supplies at local stores, the cost for school supplies by grade are as follows: grade one, \$4,451.58; grade two, \$1,605.86; grade three, \$3,646.08; grade four, \$5,186.94; grade five, \$4,913.63; and grade six, \$3,969.

The purpose of this Act is to establish and make an appropriation for a one-year school supply subsidy pilot program at all schools composed entirely of students eligible for participation in Title I, including but not limited to Naalehu elementary school.

SECTION 2. (a) Beginning with the 2022-2023 school year, the department of education shall establish and implement a one-year school supply subsidy pilot program at all schools composed entirely of students eligible for participation in Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, including but not limited to Naalehu elementary school.

(b) The department of education shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations regarding the school supply subsidy pilot program, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2024.

SECTION 3. Department of education expenditures of less than \$100,000, including those made pursuant to this Act, shall not be subject to section 103D-305(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, and shall be subject to the rules

governing procurements of less than \$25,000; provided that department of education expenditures of \$15,000 to less than \$100,000, including those made pursuant to this Act, shall be subject to the requirements of section 3-122-75(a)(2), Hawaii Administrative Rules, and shall be treated thereunder as expenditures of \$15,000 to less than \$25,000, notwithstanding any law to the contrary.

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$806,800 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to establish and implement a one-year school supply subsidy pilot program at all schools composed entirely of students eligible for participation in Title I, Part A, of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, including but not limited to Naalehu elementary school.

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

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022, and shall be repealed on January 1, 2024.

(Approved June 27, 2022.)