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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that since the enactment  
2 of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110,  
3 there has been a significant amount of experience and analyses  
4 of the effectiveness of the No Child Left Behind approach to  
5 assessments and standards.

6           At the same time, many school systems, including the  
7 department of education of Hawaii, have sought to utilize  
8 nationally produced assessment instruments that have not always  
9 met the needs of our communities. In fact, the State, like many  
10 others, has not taken full advantage of the flexibilities that  
11 are offered by federal law.

12           The legislature further finds that greater collaboration  
13 between the University of Hawaii's many educational resources,  
14 including the Hawaii educational policy center, and the  
15 department of education will benefit all of Hawaii's students.

16           Finally, the legislature further finds that most reform  
17 efforts in the United States have the benefit of a well funded,



1 independent policy research institute to assist policy makers.  
2 The Hawaii educational policy center, located at the University  
3 of Hawaii, has provided valuable analyses in the past, but has  
4 not received the financial commitment from the State to permit  
5 the level of assistance needed by policy makers in the field of  
6 education.

7 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 8 (1) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii educational policy  
9 center to spearhead a more concerted effort to develop  
10 a more comprehensive "growth model" for Hawaii public  
11 schools that considers the recommendations of the  
12 council of chief state school officers and other  
13 professional organizations; and
- 14 (2) Appropriate funds to the Hawaii educational policy  
15 center to take the lead in development of these  
16 assessments and to continue to provide expert analyses  
17 and commentary to assist policy makers.

18 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
19 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$450,000, or so much  
20 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the  
21 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year  
22 2008-2009, to the Hawaii educational policy center at the



1 University of Hawaii to work with the department of education  
2 and other educational research organizations, such as Kamehameha  
3 schools, to develop alternative assessment tools, including a  
4 comprehensive "growth model" that:

- 5 (1) Goes beyond the proposed index and formula proposal  
6 currently proposed by the department of education;
- 7 (2) Considers recommendations of the council of chief  
8 state school officers and other professional  
9 organizations for use in measuring student achievement  
10 over time at a school;
- 11 (3) Explores student growth across the curriculum, not  
12 limited to subjects currently tested under federal  
13 law;
- 14 (4) Evaluates progress on the development of performance  
15 indicators in areas relating to student achievement,  
16 safety and well-being, and civic responsibility and  
17 make recommendations on improvements; and
- 18 (5) Provides independent comment and analysis on issues  
19 before the legislature, the board of education, and  
20 the department of education;



1 provided that the Hawaii educational policy center may contract  
2 with appropriate professionals to assist in carrying out these  
3 tasks.

4 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii  
5 educational policy center through the University of Hawaii for  
6 the purposes of this section.

7 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

Education Standards; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the Hawaii educational policy center to work with the department of education and other educational research organizations to develop alternative assessment tools, including a comprehensive "growth model". (SD1)

