

MAR 10 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
INTEGRATING REHABILITATION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH ANGER
PROBLEMS.

1 WHEREAS, today's world of modern technology is capable of
2 exposing us to events occurring across the globe, such as the
3 Iraq war, and we are constantly reminded that the issues of
4 aggression and antagonism remain a huge challenge for people to
5 overcome; and

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7 WHEREAS, the violence that exists within our own country is
8 made sadly evident by the actions of our youth, including
9 shootings and reports of violence within colleges, high schools,
10 and even in middle and elementary schools; and

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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii's unique island location serves as a bridge
13 between the East and the West, bringing many different cultures
14 together to create a wonderfully diverse place to live, but such
15 diversity can also lead to tensions; and

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17 WHEREAS, there have been instances of hostilities within
18 our own schools involving firearms on campus, extreme hazing,
19 and psychological abuse among peers; and

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21 WHEREAS, currently, Hawaii public school students who
22 engage in acts of violence are not given the tools they need to
23 change their behavior because the most prevalent method of
24 dealing with such behavior is to remove the student from school
25 instead of teaching the student how to properly manage feelings
26 of anger; and

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28 WHEREAS, as a result of Act 205, Session Laws of Hawaii
29 2006, programs have been developed to assist students who have
30 used drugs or alcohol, by screening and evaluating the student
31 to determine if they have substance abuse problems and identify
32 the underlying issues that have led them to such behavior; and
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1 WHEREAS, if a student is diagnosed as having a substance
2 abuse problem, they are placed in a program with a specialist
3 who helps them overcome their addiction; and
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5 WHEREAS, a similar intervention and rehabilitation program
6 should be put into place to provide students with anger
7 management issues with the help they need to manage their
8 feelings of frustration and antagonism learn more productive
9 outlets for such feelings and avoid acting out in violence; now,
10 therefore,
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
14 that the Department of Education (DOE) is requested to study the
15 feasibility of establishing an anger management program modeled
16 after substance abuse programs to provide students who commit
17 acts of violence or harassment at their school with the tools
18 they need to change their behavior; and
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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOE is requested to submit a
21 report to the Legislature, no later than 20 days prior to
22 convening of the Regular Session of 2009, on the progress of its
23 study, including:
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25 (1) Proposals for DOE anger management programs; and
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27 (2) Projected costs of the proposed programs;;
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29 and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
33 Education and Superintendent of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

Norman Sakuma
Clarence K. Nishikawa

