

JAN 21 2011

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. There is established in the department of
2 education an electronic book pilot program for students in one
3 public intermediate or middle school to be selected by the
4 department. The department shall provide, free of charge for
5 the 2011-2012 school year, books presented in digital format to
6 be read directly from the screen of a personal computer, laptop,
7 or other portable device.

8 SECTION 2. The department of education shall select one
9 public intermediate or middle school and may select a subset of
10 students within that school to participate in the pilot program.
11 Selected students shall notify the department in writing of
12 their commitment to participate in the pilot program for the
13 school year or their election to not participate in the program.
14 Participating students shall use designated electronic books,
15 downloadable to personal computers, laptops, or other portable
16 devices, for the duration of the school year, instead of printed
17 textbooks. The department, in consultation with officials of
18 the selected schools, shall determine other rules and selection



1 criteria for students and the textbooks to be used as part of
2 the pilot program.

3 SECTION 3. During the school year, if a student or a
4 student's parents or guardians find that the student's
5 participation in the pilot program is detrimental to the
6 student's learning and desire to end participation in the
7 program, the student or the student's parents or guardians may
8 end the student's participation without penalty. Any student
9 who drops out of the program shall return any distributed
10 materials or publically-owned electronic devices to the
11 department of education in good working condition and shall not
12 be allowed to participate in the program for the remainder of
13 the school year.

14 SECTION 4. The department of education shall submit a
15 written report on the implementation and effectiveness of the
16 electronic book pilot program to the legislature no later than
17 twenty days prior to the convening of the 2013 regular session.
18 The report shall include findings on the costs and experience
19 gained from the pilot program, and recommendations for
20 implementing an electronic book system for all public schools
21 that address anticipated problems and provide an estimate of the
22 costs involved.



1 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
 3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012 for
 4 the planning and implementation of an electronic book pilot
 5 program.

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

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2011.
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Report Title:

Department of Education; Electronic Book Pilot Program;
Appropriation

Description:

Establishes and appropriates funds for an electronic book pilot program for one public intermediate or middle school to be selected by the department of education.

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