
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE COMPLIANCE WITH AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE REINVENTING EDUCATION ACT OF 2004, AS AMENDED.

1 WHEREAS, in 2004, the Legislature passed the Reinventing
2 Education Act, also known as Act 51, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004
3 (Act 51); and

4
5 WHEREAS, the intent of Act 51 was to decentralize decision
6 making at the Department of Education and empower complex- and
7 school-level staff and administrators, as well as to encourage
8 greater community involvement, and provide better professional
9 development, enhanced technology, and other education resources
10 to the Department of Education; and

11
12 WHEREAS, the main elements of Act 51 include:

- 13
14 (1) Establishing a weighted student formula;
15
16 (2) Providing additional information technology to
17 schools;
18
19 (3) Empowering school principals through the Hawaii
20 principals academy and other means;
21
22 (4) Strengthening community involvement through school
23 community councils and parent-community networking
24 centers;
25
26 (5) Providing schools with more mathematics textbooks;
27
28 (6) Lowering class size in kindergarten, grade one, and
29 grade two;
30
31 (7) Providing full-time, year-round, high school student
32 activity coordinators;
33
34 (8) Providing support to students who need additional help
35 to succeed in school;



- 1
- 2 (9) Establishing a national board certification incentive
- 3 program for teachers;
- 4
- 5 (10) Enhancing teacher education;
- 6
- 7 (11) Reducing the bureaucracy that hampers the
- 8 effectiveness of the Department of Education;
- 9
- 10 (12) Improving the educational accountability system; and
- 11
- 12 (13) Requiring Board of Education members to hold community
- 13 meetings in their districts; and
- 14

15 WHEREAS, it has been over seven years since Act 51 was
 16 enacted and sufficient time has passed for the outcomes of the
 17 changes made by Act 51 to be evaluated; now, therefore,

18
 19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
 20 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2012,
 21 that the Board of Education and Department of Education are
 22 requested to review and evaluate compliance with Act 51, as
 23 amended, and the effectiveness of Act 51, as amended, in
 24 achieving the State's educational goals, and to make
 25 recommendations to the Legislature as to any necessary changes
 26 or modifications; and

27
 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting its examination
 29 and assessment of Act 51, the Board of Education and Department
 30 of Education are requested to engage key stakeholder groups,
 31 including but not limited to:

- 32
- 33 (1) Parents of public school students;
- 34
- 35 (2) Public school teachers;
- 36
- 37 (3) Educational officers;
- 38
- 39 (4) The Hawaii Government Employees Association; and
- 40
- 41 (5) The Hawaii State Teachers Association; and
- 42

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days prior
 44 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2013, the Board of



1 Education and Department of Education are requested to report to
2 the Legislature:

- 3
- 4 (1) The status of implementation of principal performance
5 contracts;
 - 6
 - 7 (2) Their findings and recommendations as to their
8 assessment and study of the weighted student formula;
9 and
 - 10
 - 11 (3) An outline and timeline of the Board of Education and
12 Department of Education's remaining objectives in
13 evaluating Act 51; and
 - 14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Senate President, Speaker of
17 the House of Representatives, Chairperson of the Board of
18 Education, Superintendent of Education, President of the Hawaii
19 Government Employees Association, and President of the Hawaii
20 State Teachers Association.

