SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO TELEVISE OR MAKE AVAILABLE ONLINE ITS MEETINGS.

WHEREAS, television and online publications play an important role in keeping the public informed of daily events in the State; and

WHEREAS, 'Olelo Community Media has televised selected proceedings of the Legislature and Honolulu City Council, thereby keeping the general public informed of the major issues that affect their daily lives and the decisions made by their elected officials; and

WHEREAS, it is important that government agencies televise meetings to keep the community informed of major issues that affect them; and

WHEREAS, members of the public are not always able to attend the open meetings of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, meeting minutes can only provide a general accounting of issues discussed at these meetings, while televised meetings allow the public to view the actual proceedings and gain a greater context of the discussions; and

WHEREAS, a well-informed public that is able to actively participate in government by voicing concern and lending expertise would result in more well-informed policy and decision making; and

WHEREAS, the Open Government Plan set forth by the Governor seeks to increase community involvement in government affairs affecting the community, and to make government agency meetings more accessible to the public by video teleconferencing issues of interest to the public; and
WHEREAS, the public is often uninformed and uninvolved in important matters discussed by the Board of Education because its meetings are not televised or otherwise made available online; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Education is requested to televise or make available online its meetings; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Education and Superintendent of Education.

OFFERED BY:

[Signatures]

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