June 12, 2015

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,
President
and Members of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Souki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on June 12, 2015, the following bill was signed into law:

SB1345 HD1 CD1 RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
ACT 116 (15)

Sincerely,

David Y. Ige
Governor, State of Hawai‘i
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the use of multi-track scheduling in the public schools is not in the best interest of public school students. The multi-track schedule results in fewer instructional days for students. In an attempt to compensate for fewer days, the students and staff are subject to longer hours. Families are also disrupted by the schedule as the traditional summer break does not always fall in the summer months, and it is very possible that children in the same family who attend different schools would have traditional school breaks at different times. Moreover, the multi-track schedule is in place for the purpose of managing the resources available to overpopulated schools, not for any educational benefit.

The purpose of this Act is to transition public schools away from the multi-track schedule and develop facilities to accommodate the student population.

SECTION 2. The department of education shall develop a transition plan to end the use of multi-track schedules in public schools. The plan shall:
(1) Detail the needs of each school currently on a multi-track schedule in order to transition to a traditional schedule;

(2) Include a timeline for each school's transition to a traditional schedule; and

(3) List any funding necessary to implement each school's transition to a traditional schedule.

The department of education shall report to the legislature with the transition plan and any proposed legislation, including any funding needs, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2016.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 for the department of education to develop a transition plan to end the use of multi-track schedules in public schools.

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

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

APPROVED this 12 day of JUN, 2015

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII