RELATING TO EDUCATION INNOVATION GRANTS.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is a matter of statewide concern to enable public school innovation and systemic school empowerment under the auspices of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA), authorized as P.L. 114-95. ESSA offers the State a new opportunity to set a renewed vision of high expectations and move away from a one size fits all approach to student learning. ESSA provides the State's public school system the authority to embrace public school innovation and systemic school empowerment within a context of Hawaii's unique values, beliefs, culture, history, and language.

The legislature further finds that there is a public benefit from school-level innovation, beginning with the development of exemplary leadership and elevation of the teaching profession. This exemplary leadership will reflect school-level and community-based input and recognize visionary educational practices. Teachers will be empowered to adopt
educational practices that support global learner outcomes based upon individual assessments rather than standardized testing. The legislature finds that the board of education, as a matter of statewide policy, should encourage innovation in department of education schools that support global learner outcomes and recognize cultural context.

The purpose of this Act is to authorize the board of education to adopt guiding principles and measures of success for, and the department of education to implement grants to support, school-level innovations reflecting visionary and aspirational educational practices and to fund these grants.

SECTION 2. Chapter 302A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding two new sections to part V, subpart B to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§302A- Education innovation grants program. (a) There is established within the department, an education innovation grants program for department schools under the direction of the board. The board shall adopt guiding principles and measures of success for the grants program.

(b) The department shall:
(1) Develop a request for proposals based upon the guiding principles and measures of success, including a schedule of proposal submission and award deadlines;

(2) Ensure that information about the grants program is published and broadcast via electronic media sites managed by the department; and

(3) Award grants to department schools or programs that reflect the board’s guiding principles and that have the potential for knowledge transfer within the public school system.

(c) Beginning with the convening of the regular session of 2021, the department shall submit to the legislature an annual report that includes:

(1) A list of the schools or programs that have received the grants and the amount of each grant;

(2) A description of the innovations being supported by each grant; and

(3) The measures of success applicable to each grant.

§302A- Education innovation grants special fund. (a)

There is established in the state treasury, the education innovation grants special fund, into which shall be deposited:
(1) Appropriations made by the legislature to the fund; and
(2) All interest and earnings accruing from the investment of moneys in the fund.

(b) Moneys in the education innovation grants special fund shall be used to award grants to department schools or programs that reflect the board's guiding principles and that have the potential for knowledge transfer within the public school system."

SECTION 3. Section 302A-1101, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a) There shall be a principal executive department to be known as the department of education, which shall be headed by a policy-making board to be known as the board of education. The board shall have power in accordance with law to formulate statewide educational policy; adopt student performance standards and assessment models; monitor school success; administer the education innovation grants program and special fund; and appoint the superintendent of education as the chief executive officer of the public school system."
SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of $ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to be deposited into the education innovation grants special fund.

SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the education innovation grants special fund the sum of $ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 for the education innovation grants program. The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department of education for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.
Report Title:
Education Innovation Grants Program; Special Fund; Appropriation

Description:
Establishes the Education Innovation Grants Program to support school-level innovation. Authorizes the Board of Education to adopt guiding principles and measures of success for the Grants Program and the Department of Education to implement the Grants Program. Establishes the Education Innovation Grants Special Fund. Makes appropriations. (HB413 HD2)

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