

MAR 09 2021

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO USE CORONAVIRUS AID,  
RELIEF, AND ECONOMIC SECURITY ACT AND CORONAVIRUS RESPONSE  
AND RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT MONIES TO RETAIN  
TEACHERS AND PREVENT FURLOUGHS.

1           WHEREAS, the State's Department of Education is the only  
2 public education system in the country that is wholly state  
3 funded; and  
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5           WHEREAS, this singular funding status has resulted in the  
6 department of education facing unique challenges to utilizing  
7 funds provided by the federal government to offset the negative  
8 economic impacts of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)  
9 pandemic; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the states that receive certain federal funds,  
12 including monies from the Elementary and Secondary School  
13 Emergency Relief Funds established by the Coronavirus Aid,  
14 Relief, and Economic Security Act, Public Law 116-136, 2020  
15 (CARES Act), and the Coronavirus Response and Relief  
16 Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021, Public Law 116-260  
17 (CRRSAA), are required to assure that they will maintain support  
18 for education programs during fiscal years 2019-2020 and 2020-  
19 2021 by meeting certain benchmarks; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the CARES Act created the federal Education  
22 Stabilization Fund; and  
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24           WHEREAS, the State, through the Department of Education,  
25 must comply with the provisions of the federal Education  
26 Stabilization Fund as set forth in section 18006 of the CARES  
27 Act to receive and expend CARES Act and CRRSAA monies, which, in  
28 part, requires the Department of Education to continue to pay  
29 its employees; and  
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# S.C.R. NO. 83

1 WHEREAS, in accepting and expending federal CARES Act and  
2 CRRSAA monies, the Department of Education employees must  
3 continue to receive their pay; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the State, through the department of education,  
6 must also comply with the "maintenance of effort" provisions set  
7 forth in section 18008 of the CARES Act; and  
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9 WHEREAS, these provisions require funding for public  
10 education to be maintained at the same funding levels as in  
11 fiscal years 2017, 2018, and 2019, for those funds that are part  
12 of the CARES Act and at a proportional funding level for the  
13 CRRSAA; and  
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15 WHEREAS, federal monies received by the State to the  
16 Department of Education should be used to offset any budget  
17 reductions that would result in the reduction of personnel who  
18 are employed at the school level, including any budget reduction  
19 that results in a layoff, furlough, or pay reduction; now,  
20 therefore,  
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
23 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the  
24 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
25 Education is urged to use CARES Act and CRRSAA monies for the  
26 retention of teachers and to prevent furloughs; and  
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Superintendent of  
30 Education and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.  
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OFFERED BY:

