
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that teachers are
2 essential to student success. Yet, the board of education
3 currently consists of nine voting members, none of whom are
4 required to be a public school teacher.

5 The legislature further finds that the board of education
6 would benefit from the perspective of a public school teacher
7 representative by providing insight into the:

- 8 (1) Educational and professional climate in Hawaii's
9 public schools;
- 10 (2) Impact of education policies on teacher recruitment
11 and retention; and
- 12 (3) Resources needed to deliver a quality learning
13 experience to all of Hawaii's children.

14 The legislature additionally finds that the coronavirus
15 disease 2019 pandemic (COVID-19) has significantly disrupted
16 Hawaii's public education system, forcing schools to adapt their
17 operations to protect public health. School communities were



1 required to adopt new protocols to deliver instructional
2 content, including comprehensive distance learning programs.
3 Board of education members and school administrators were also
4 responsible for using medical information to make decisions
5 about school safety, such as when school campuses could safely
6 reopen and welcome the return of faculty and students. Board of
7 education deliberations about protocols and service delivery
8 systems developed in response to COVID-19 would also benefit
9 from the experience of a public school teacher representative,
10 given that teachers spearhead classes and directly interact with
11 students and parents.

12 The purpose of this Act is to require the board of
13 education to invite the exclusive representative for bargaining
14 unit (5) to appoint a nonvoting public school teacher
15 representative to the board.

16 SECTION 2. Section 302A-121, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "[+]§302A-121[+] Board of education; members; student
19 [and], military, and teacher representatives. (a) The board
20 shall consist of nine voting members as follows:

21 (1) One member from the county of Hawaii;



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- 1 (2) One member from the county of Maui;
- 2 (3) One member from the county of Kauai;
- 3 (4) Three members from the city and county of Honolulu;
- 4 and
- 5 (5) Three at-large members; provided that the governor
- 6 shall select an at-large member as the chairperson.

7 The members shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice

8 and consent of the senate. The governor may remove or suspend

9 for cause any member of the board.

10 (b) Pursuant to article XVIII, section 12, of the Hawaii

11 State Constitution, the period of transition from the elected to

12 the appointed board shall be as determined in section 21 of Act

13 5, Session Laws of Hawaii 2011.

14 (c) The members of the board shall serve without pay but

15 shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses,

16 including travel and board and lodging expenses, while attending

17 meetings of the board or when actually engaged in business

18 relating to the work of the board.

19 (d) Pursuant to section 302A-447, the state student

20 council shall select a nonvoting public high school student

21 representative to the board.



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1 (e) Pursuant to section 302A-1101(c), the board shall
2 invite the senior military commander in Hawaii to appoint a
3 nonvoting military representative to the board.

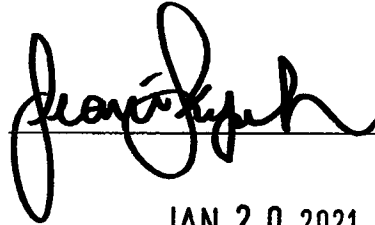
4 (f) The board shall invite the exclusive representative
5 for bargaining unit (5) to appoint a nonvoting public school
6 teacher representative to the board."

7 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

10

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 20 2021



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Report Title:

Board of Education; Public School Teacher Representative

Description:

Requires the board of education to invite the exclusive representative for bargaining unit (5) (teachers and other personnel of the department of education) to appoint a nonvoting public school teacher representative to the board.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

