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# 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. Section 302A-1106.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
2 is amended to read as follows:  
3           "~~§302A-1106.5 Board of education; community [meetings-]~~  
4 forums. [~~The board shall hold not less than one community~~  
5 ~~meeting annually in each county in]~~ In addition to their regular  
6 meetings, the board shall hold no less than six community forums  
7 annually to discuss and receive input from the community on  
8 public education and public library issues~~[-]~~; provided that the  
9 board shall hold at least one community forum in each county.  
10 The board chairperson shall designate board members to attend  
11 ~~[the]~~ each community ~~[meetings-]~~ forum. These community  
12 ~~[meetings]~~ forums shall not be held for the purpose of  
13 formulating educational policy. The community ~~[meetings]~~ forums  
14 shall be ~~[exempt from sections 92-2.5, 92-7, 92-9, and 92-41;~~  
15 ~~provided that the board shall give written public notice of each~~  
16 ~~community meeting. The meeting notice shall indicate the date,~~  
17 ~~time, and place of the meeting, and shall be filed in the office~~



1 ~~of the lieutenant governor and in the board's office for public~~  
2 ~~inspection six calendar days before the meeting. The notice~~  
3 ~~shall also be posted at the site of the meeting.]~~ a permitted  
4 interaction under section 92-2.5; provided that:

5 (1) The board shall give written public notice that  
6 indicates the date, time, and place of each community  
7 forum; provided further that the notice shall be  
8 subject to the same posting and filing requirements of  
9 board meeting notices, pursuant to section 92-7(b);

10 (2) Community forums shall be open to the public and all  
11 persons shall be permitted to attend; provided that  
12 the removal of any person or persons who wilfully  
13 disrupts a community forum to prevent and compromise  
14 the conduct of the community forum shall not be  
15 prohibited;

16 (3) The board shall afford all interested persons an  
17 opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments, in  
18 writing or in person, on any public education or  
19 public library issues at each community forum;

20 (4) No commitment relating to a vote on a matter is made  
21 or sought at any community forum; and



1       (5) At the next duly noticed meeting of the board, the  
2       board members shall report their attendance and the  
3       matters presented and discussed at each community  
4       forum."

5       SECTION 2. At any public meeting properly noticed pursuant  
6 to chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the board of education  
7 shall include an open forum at the end of its meeting agenda to  
8 afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral  
9 testimony on any matter not on the agenda; provided that the  
10 testimony is related to matters over which the board of  
11 education has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory  
12 power.

13       SECTION 3. The board of education shall report to the  
14 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
15 the regular session of 2022 on its efforts to amend its polices  
16 to include an open forum at the end of its meeting agenda to  
17 afford all interested persons an opportunity to present oral  
18 testimony on any matter not on the agenda.

19       SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
20 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

21       SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



# H.B. NO. 608 H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Board of Education; Public Meetings; Oral Testimony; Community Forums

**Description:**

Requires the board of education to hold no less than six community forums annually, with at least one forum in each county. Requires the board to include an open forum for public comments on non-agenda items. Requires a report to the legislature on implementing open forums. Effective 7/1/2050.  
(HD1)

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

