

MAR 10 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO PARTNER WITH THE HAWAII STATE TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION AND TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT LOCAL UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES TO PROVIDE PATHWAYS FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT PERSONNEL TO BECOME FULL-TIME TEACHERS.

1 WHEREAS, the State is suffering from a severe shortage of
2 licensed teachers; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Education has two hundred fifty-
5 eight public schools that serve more than one hundred sixty-
6 eight thousand students and employs twenty-two thousand
7 teachers, librarians, counselors, educational offers, and other
8 school support staff; and

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10 WHEREAS, in the 2021-2022 academic year, the Department of
11 Education experienced a 12.3 percent increase in public school
12 teacher turnover, with nine hundred twenty teachers who resigned
13 and three hundred ten teachers who retired; and

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15 WHEREAS, school support staff, such as aides and service
16 staff, are also experiencing a high rate of turnover, with nine
17 hundred thirty-eight school support staff who left the
18 Department of Education in the 2021-2022 academic year; and

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20 WHEREAS, certain school support personnel, such as
21 education assistants, para-professional teachers, part-time
22 teachers, and extended hire substitute teachers play a critical
23 role in the classroom by assisting teachers with instruction and
24 one-to-one support for students with special needs; and

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26 WHEREAS, while school support personnel have extensive
27 experience with instructional delivery, classroom operation, and
28 pedagogy, many school support personnel who choose to enroll in
29 teacher certification programs do not receive course credit for
30 their classroom work and experience; and

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32 WHEREAS, school support personnel must sacrifice a semester
33 of income to complete required student teaching experiences as a



1 requirement to complete teacher education programs that award
2 teacher certification; and

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4 WHEREAS, school support personnel who are pursuing careers
5 as full-time teachers would benefit from being able to earn
6 course credit for their work in the classroom, and by providing
7 more convenient pathways to obtain the requisites to become a
8 full-time teacher more individuals may become interested in
9 pursuing teaching careers, which would help the State's current
10 teacher shortage; now, therefore,

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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
14 that the Department of Education is requested to partner with
15 the Hawaii State Teachers' Association and Hawaii teacher
16 education programs to provide pathways for school support
17 personnel to become full-time teachers; and

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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
20 requested to target educational assistants, para-professional
21 teachers, extended hire substitute teachers, and part-time
22 teachers for the full-time teacher pathway; and

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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
25 requested to collaborate with higher education partners across
26 the State to develop pathways that allow students with relevant
27 work experience in a school support personnel role to be
28 credited for work experience towards required course credits;
29 and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education,
33 Chair of the Board of Education, President of the Hawaii State
34 Teachers Association, President of the University of Hawaii,
35 President of Chaminade University of Honolulu, President of
36 Hawaii Pacific University, and President of Brigham Young
37 University Hawaii.

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40 OFFERED BY:



