H.R. NO. 218

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO INCLUDE A WEST MAUI SCHOOL IN ITS PILOT PROGRAM TO REDUCE HEAT DISCOMFORT IN CLASSROOMS.

1 2	WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the stifling heat in school classrooms is not conducive to learning; and
3	
4	WHEREAS, an independent study tracking the average daily
5	temperatures of classrooms in Lahaina schools showed that,
6	despite the Department of Education's new heat matrix standards,
7	Lahaina schools actually have the second hottest classrooms in
8	the State; and
9	
10	WHEREAS, in addition, Lahaina schools are subjected to the
11	diesel fumes of tour buses parked near Lahaina Harbor and to
12	dust, noise, and smoke from traffic on the overly congested
13	roadways near the schools; and
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15	WHEREAS, in the hottest months of September and October,
16	doctors have found that student illnesses are usually heat-
17	related in origin and that these medical incidents take students
18	away from the classroom; and
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20	WHEREAS, the Department of Education estimates that at the
21	current rate of \$5,300,000 per fiscal year as appropriated for
22	heat and noise abatement, it will take about one hundred forty
23	years to complete the air conditioning at all public schools;
24	and
25	
26	WHEREAS, West Maui public schools are in urgent need of
27	immediate heat abatement and both the community and the parents
28	are willing to partner with the Department of Education to help
29	implement and fund these measures; now, therefore,
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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that this body requests the Department of Education to include one of the West Maui schools in its pilot program to examine and implement measures for reducing discomfort in public school classrooms; and

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 9 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Superintendent of 10 Education, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, and the 11 Principals of Lahainaluna High School, Princess Nahienaena 12 School, Lahaina Intermediate School, and King Kamehameha III 13 Elementary School, respectively.

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OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 2 2008

