
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO ESTABLISH A PILOT PROGRAM TO ALLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL PRINCIPALS TO USE A DEBIT CARD SYSTEM FOR PURCHASING SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND OTHER RELATED CURRICULUM SUPPORT SUPPLIES.

1 WHEREAS, our public schools have long faced a shortage of
2 and inadequate funding for school supplies; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Legislature believes that providing purchasing
5 power at the classroom level will help address the supplies
6 problem; and

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8 WHEREAS, debit card systems, by allowing teachers to make
9 specific purchases within a set dollar limit, would help to:

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11 (1) Streamline the process for purchasing school and
12 curriculum support supplies by shortening the wait
13 time between ordering and obtaining a product and by
14 eliminating the time lag for reimbursement of out-of-
15 pocket expenses; and

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17 (2) Provide teachers with flexibility for their purchases,
18 which would allow them to take advantage of school
19 discounts and sales in the community; and

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21 (3) Provide up-to-date spending information; and

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23 WHEREAS, banks are available to assist the Department of
24 Education to establish debit card system accounts at little or
25 no cost; now, therefore,

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27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
29 Session of 2008, that the Department of Education is requested
30 to establish a pilot program under which a principal from each
31 participating public school may establish and use a debit card
32 system for the purpose of purchasing school supplies and other
33 related curriculum support supplies by teachers; and



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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Department of Education is requested to form a group consisting of one representative from the Department, one representative from the Hawaii State Teachers Association, and one public intermediate school teacher for the purpose of selecting three intermediate schools to participate in the pilot program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.

OFFERED BY:

William H. King

John Manuel