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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOMMENDING THAT FINE ARTS BE A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION  
REQUIREMENT.

1           WHEREAS, the Board of Education has identified dance,  
2 drama, music, and the visual arts as being the curriculum for  
3 fine arts; and  
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5           WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Student Conference,  
6 the fine arts have a measurable impact on youth at risk by  
7 discouraging delinquent behavior and truancy problems; and  
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9           WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Student Conference,  
10 there is an increase in overall academic performance among those  
11 youth engaged in after school and summer arts programs targeted  
12 toward delinquency prevention; and  
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14           WHEREAS, in a 2005 New Harris Poll, ninety-three per cent  
15 of Americans are of the opinion that training in the arts is  
16 vital to providing a well-rounded education; and  
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18           WHEREAS, in that same 2005 New Harris Poll, fifty-four per  
19 cent of Americans rated the importance of the arts as being ten  
20 out of ten for providing a well rounded education; and  
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22           WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Student Conference,  
23 training in fine arts helps students develop a sense of  
24 craftsmanship, quality task performance, and goal setting, which  
25 skills are needed in the classroom and beyond; and  
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27           WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Student Conference,  
28 as a result of the No Child Left Behind Act, the funds allocated  
29 for the teaching of the fine arts have been reduced throughout  
30 the nation in favor of core academics; and  
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32           WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Student Conference,  
33 as a result of the No Child Left Behind Act, there has been a  
34 reduction in the prevalence of the arts being taught in all  
35 schools; now, therefore,  
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# H.R. NO. 38

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
3 Session of 2008, that it is recommended that the fine arts  
4 curriculum be included as a graduation requirement by the  
5 Department of Education; and

6  
7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
8 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
9 Education, the Superintendent of Education, all Hawaii secondary  
10 school principals, and to the Director of the Hawaii Association  
11 of Independent Schools.  
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