

MAR 13 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO EXERCISE EMERGENCY POWERS TO EXPEDITE
THE INSTALLATION OF AIR CONDITIONING AT JAMES CAMPBELL HIGH
SCHOOL.

1 WHEREAS, only twenty-one of the two hundred fifty-seven
2 public schools in the State are fully air conditioned, and due
3 to high levels of heat found in the State's public schools, the
4 Department of Education last year conducted a study to determine
5 priority for installing air conditioning in those schools
6 without air conditioning; and
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8 WHEREAS, under the original criteria of the study, James
9 Campbell High School in Ewa Beach was ranked seventh in priority
10 to receive air conditioning; and
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12 WHEREAS, in November 2007, Department of Education
13 officials updated the list of schools to account for humidity
14 and the amount of time that schools remain at peak temperatures
15 before heat subsides; and
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17 WHEREAS, under the updated criteria, James Campbell High
18 School's priority for air conditioning dropped from number seven
19 to number seventy; and
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21 WHEREAS, James Campbell High School is unique in its
22 circumstances in that it is located under the glide path to
23 runways at Honolulu International Airport and Hickam Air Force
24 Base; and
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26 WHEREAS, the excessive noise and dust generated by
27 commercial and military aircraft landing at the airfields
28 demands that classroom windows must frequently remain closed
29 during the day so that classes are not disturbed; and
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1 WHEREAS, the closed classroom windows prevent air
2 circulation and result in even higher temperatures in the
3 classrooms that make it difficult for teachers to teach and for
4 students to concentrate and learn; and

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6 WHEREAS, teachers and students at James Campbell High
7 School have recorded classroom temperatures as high as one
8 hundred degrees, and they are forced to combat the heat by
9 wiping their foreheads with wet cloths, rolling up their shirts,
10 and huddling around fans; and

11
12 WHEREAS, the new criteria used to determine the priority of
13 public schools for receiving air conditioning does not take into
14 account the special conditions of excessive noise and dust that
15 contribute to the excessive heat at James Campbell High School;
16 now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
20 House of Representatives concurring, that the Governor is urged
21 to find that the excessive noise pollution and air pollution
22 generated by aircraft landing near James Campbell High School
23 creates an imminent peril to the public health and safety of the
24 students and faculty at the school, pursuant to section 342B-43
25 and 342F-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Governor is urged to
28 exercise emergency powers and take action as may be necessary to
29 expedite the installation of air conditioning at James Campbell
30 High School in order to reduce heat, excessive noise, and dust
31 pollution in the classrooms; and

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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the
35 Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of
36 Education, and the principal of James Campbell High School.

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OFFERED BY: Will Egan

