

JAN 23 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT 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

4
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

8
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

13
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

17
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

21
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

26
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

31
32 WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii State Student Conference,
33 as a result of the No Child Left Behind Act, there has been a



1 reduction in the prevalence of the arts being taught in all
2 schools; now, therefore,

3

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

9

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

15

16

17

OFFERED BY: *Suzanne Chun Clalland*
Wili Leland

