

2011 Secondary Student Conference

State Concerns

Board of Education Student Representative Becomes a Member with Partial Voting Rights Resolution 10

1 **CONCERNING:** The Hawaii State Board of Education Student Representative shall become a
2 Member of the Hawaii State Board of Education with voting rights on all concerns, with the
3 exception of voting on personnel issues.
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5 **WHEREAS,** a Board of Education Student Member existed since 1973. In March 2011, the
6 Student Member became a Student Representative who continues to voice the concerns of
7 183,000+ students from all primary and secondary public schools, which he/she represents as the
8 only public school student on the Board of Education; and
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10 **WHEREAS,** the Hawaii State Student Council is the counsel for the Board of Education
11 Student Representative and the student representative serves as the main source of
12 communication between the Board and the students; and
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14 **WHEREAS,** the responsibility of the Student Representative is to give student input on
15 educational policies and programs. He/she must attend monthly meetings and public hearings
16 monthly but is not allowed to vote in the final conclusion. The Student Representative has the
17 same responsibility as the adult board members, except for voting; and
18

19 **WHEREAS,** students of Hawaii have been pursuing Student Board Member voting right since
20 1988 through the Hawaii State Student Council and the Secondary Student Conference.
21 According to surveys, participation of the following have reported in favor of granting voting
22 rights: 82% of the 2011 Student Leadership Workshop, 80% of the 2008 Kids Voting Elections,
23 97% of the 2006 Secondary Student Conference, 96% of the 2003 Student Leadership Workshop
24 and; therefore,
25

26 **BE IT RESOLVED,** that the 2011 Hawaii Secondary Student Conference recommends that the
27 Board of Education Student Representative be changed to a Student Member with partial voting
28 rights on all issues, with the exception of personnel issues; and
29

30 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that copies of this resolution are forwarded to the Hawaii
31 State Legislature, the Governor of the State of Hawaii, the Hawaii State Board of Education, and
32 the Hawaii State Student Council.