

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

**SUBJECT:** School-Level Minor Repairs and Maintenance Account

**REFERENCE:** Section 302A-1504, Hawaii Revised Statutes

**ACTION REQUESTED:** A report to the Director of Finance ninety days after the close of each fiscal year which identifies the total amount of funds that shall carry over to the next fiscal year and expenditures made for each school.

**DOE REPORT:**

**Introduction:** Section 302A-1504.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), establishes a school-level minor repairs and maintenance special fund to provide additional moneys for school-level minor repairs and maintenance (R&M) projects. This special fund is funded through donations made by taxpayers who allocate \$2 to the Department of Education (DOE) Repair and Maintenance program on their state tax form. In fiscal year (FY) 2008-2009, no funds were expended by DOE. The current balance as of December 2009 is \$221,081.47.

**FINDINGS:** As no funds were expended from this account, there is nothing to report. The DOE, however, has plans to expend the funds on a restroom restoration program in FY 2009-10. Schools that are interested in receiving these moneys will be asked to submit an application that specifies the work to be done with the funds. The review committee will award funds based on merit and will seek to equitably distribute funds among the districts.

### **Restroom Restoration Program**

The restroom restoration program will require each participating school to professionally clean and restore a multiple-stall boys restroom and a multiple-stall girls restroom. The professional cleaning company contracted will include training of custodial staff on the proper techniques and use of the cleaning solutions. Any available additional funds will be allocated to the schools to purchase supplies for custodians to replicate the restroom restoration on the remaining restrooms.

Some schools may opt to retain the professional cleaning company to restore other restrooms on campus with the supplies fund instead of purchasing cleaning supplies.

The program will address needed restroom maintenance projects at schools that may not otherwise have funding. Clean and sanitary restrooms are a priority with the Department of Education and the Board of Education. Through this special funding, selected schools are able to restore their restroom facilities to

“almost new” condition, train their custodians on deep cleaning techniques, and raise the awareness of the school community as a whole on the value of maintaining clean restrooms.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The DOE recommends continuing the use of these special funds held in the school-level minor repairs and maintenance account for the restroom restoration program. A survey of schools that were previously funded showed that most schools who participated in the restroom restoration program were able to sustain clean and sanitary restrooms.