



1988

To address and support the educational needs of Native Hawaiians, as demonstrated through the 1983 Native Hawaiian Educational Assessment Report, Congress enacted the Native Hawaiian Education Act (NHEA) under Title IV of the 1988 Hawkins-Stafford amendments of the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965 to fund six supplemental programs for Native Hawaiians in five distinct areas: family-based early childhood education, elementary curriculum development, higher education, special education, and gifted and talented programs.



1994

NHEA was reauthorized as Title IX, Part B of the 1994 Improving America's School Act. NHEA was amended to provide discretionary grants in the same five areas (extending curriculum development to include secondary education and teacher training and recruitment), but also funding for community-based education learning centers. The NHEA also authorized the establishment of a Native Hawaiian Education Council and five island councils to provide guidance and direction of Native Hawaiian education resources to government agencies. The Council was composed of 25 NHEA grantees, various Native Hawaiian serving organizations and island council representatives.



2001

NHEA was reauthorized as Title VII, Part B of the 2001 No Child Left Behind Act. Funding priorities were now awarded to eligible entities providing Native Hawaiian education services that addressed beginning reading and literacy; needs of at-risk children and youth; Native Hawaiian underemployment; and Hawaiian language instruction. Composition of the Education Council was changed to 10 Native Hawaiian education providers, 10 Native Hawaiians or Native Hawaiian education consumers, and one Office of Hawaiian Affairs representative, and island councils were expanded from five to seven.



2015

NHEA was reauthorized as Title VI, Part B of the 2015 Every Student Succeeds Act. NHEA was amended to authorize charter schools as an eligible entity for direct funding. Amendments also changed the composition of the Education Council to 15 state and county elected officials, public agency heads, private funders, and various Native Hawaiian serving organizations, and expands the Council's activities to include providing technical assistance to current and potential grant recipients and conducting community consultations on each island in place of island councils.

