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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR AND THE STATE LIBRARIAN TO RESTORE  
LIBRARY HOURS FOR THE HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM TO  
MEET THE NEEDS OF LIBRARY SYSTEM MEMBERS.

1           WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Public Library System provides  
2 fifty branch libraries on six islands that offer library  
3 programs that improve and enrich the intellectual development,  
4 personal achievement, and leisure time activities of Library  
5 System members; and

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7           WHEREAS, through its programs, the Library System provides  
8 appropriate reading, information, retrieval, and audiovisual  
9 materials and services; and

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11           WHEREAS, of the 1,200,000 residents of Hawaii, eight  
12 hundred thousand are members of the Library System and have  
13 library cards to access the Library System's services; and

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15           WHEREAS, the Library System is one of the most heavily and  
16 frequently used library systems in the country and circulates  
17 more books on average per year than any other state; and

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19           WHEREAS, over the past ten years, the Library System has  
20 suffered from increasing budget cutbacks and hiring freezes that  
21 have resulted in reductions in staffing and library hours; and

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23           WHEREAS, the cutback in library hours has affected  
24 thousands of Library System members who depend on the Library  
25 System for access to reading material and a place for quiet  
26 contemplation; and

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28           WHEREAS, the Library System has slowly begun to restore  
29 library hours by opening branch libraries that were previously  
30 closed on Mondays; and

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1 WHEREAS, the Library System, however, has not expanded its  
2 library hours enough to meet the demands of its patrons; and  
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4 WHEREAS, recent reports indicate that the State will enjoy  
5 a budget surplus of more than \$540,000,000 in the upcoming  
6 fiscal year; and  
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8 WHEREAS, considering this optimistic budgetary forecast for  
9 the State, expanding library hours for Library System patrons  
10 should be a top budget priority; now, therefore,  
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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
13 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
14 of 2006, the Senate concurring, that the Governor and the State  
15 Librarian are requested to restore library hours for the Hawaii  
16 State Public Library System to meet the needs of Library System  
17 patrons; and  
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the State  
21 Librarian, and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.  
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OFFERED BY:

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