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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO REAFFIRM THEIR COMMITMENT TO MAINTAINING A SYSTEMWIDE OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS AND TO FILL THE VACANT POSITION OF THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS.

1           WHEREAS, the organization of the University of Hawaii  
2 reflects organizational dynamics common among several systems of  
3 post-secondary education in the United States, while  
4 simultaneously acknowledging the unique character of the  
5 University of Hawaii system in its scope of two-year  
6 institutions, baccalaureate institutions, and a complex doctoral  
7 institution; and

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9           WHEREAS, the need for a systemwide Office of the Vice  
10 President for Student Affairs who reports directly to the  
11 President was reaffirmed in the recent reorganizations of the  
12 University of Hawaii to demonstrate the commitment of the  
13 administration to the student-centered nature of the University;  
14 and

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16           WHEREAS, while other system offices impact students and  
17 have many constituencies, they do not have students as their  
18 primary focus, nor do they have regular communications and  
19 contact with students or student governance groups; and

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21           WHEREAS, the Office of the Vice President for Student  
22 Affairs convenes one of the student councils that has become a  
23 feature of the system reorganization, the Senior Student Affairs  
24 Officers, whose primary mission is to discuss and resolve  
25 student-related issues in order to achieve consistency of  
26 relevant policies, facilitate articulation across the campuses,  
27 and provide a cohesive University of Hawaii system that  
28 encourages the intellectual, social, service, and leadership co-  
29 curricular development of students; and

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31           WHEREAS, the Office of the Vice President for Student  
32 Affairs has dealt with a considerable range of issues, making



1 full use of the Senior Student Affairs Officers to address  
2 systemwide matters that include: a new student health insurance  
3 plan, a student death protocol, legislative initiatives such as  
4 the B Plus scholarship for low income students who receive  
5 grades of B or higher, electronic communication policies,  
6 federal education privacy regulations, chartered student  
7 organization policies, federal financial aid compliance, student  
8 identification cards, student affairs staff training, and  
9 professional development; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Office of the Vice President for Student  
12 Affairs provides administrative support for regular meetings of  
13 the systemwide Student Caucus, an organization of student  
14 leaders from throughout the university system that advocates for  
15 students systemwide and serves as a primary communication  
16 vehicle to the President; and

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18 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii Office of the Vice  
19 President for Student Affairs provides administrative  
20 leadership, information and advice on matters pertaining to  
21 student affairs policies, and facilitates communication and  
22 coordination with other system offices and the President and the  
23 Board of Regents' Student Affairs Committee; and

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25 WHEREAS, there is appropriate concern that the current  
26 organization of the University of Hawaii requires a clearer  
27 delineation of functions between campuses and all the systemwide  
28 offices including the offices of the Vice President for  
29 Administration, Vice President for Finance, Vice President for  
30 Community Colleges, Vice President for Academic Policy and  
31 Planning, and Vice President for Research, and the Office of the  
32 Vice President for Student Affairs; now, therefore,

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34 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
35 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
36 of 2006, that the President and the Board of Regents of the  
37 University of Hawaii are requested to reaffirm their commitment  
38 to maintain a systemwide Vice President for Student Affairs, who  
39 reports directly to the President, with appropriate authority  
40 and resources to develop systemwide student affairs policies,  
41 advocate for students, support the Student Caucus, and increase  
42 coordination, cooperation, and program efficiency between  
43 campuses and the system offices; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the University  
 2 of Hawaii is requested to fulfill his commitment to students and  
 3 the primacy of students by filling the position of Office of the  
 4 Vice President for Student Affairs which is now vacant due to  
 5 the recent retirement of Dr. Doris Ching, an exemplary student  
 6 advocate during her tenure as the Vice President for Student  
 7 Affairs for nearly two decades; and

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 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the President of the University  
 10 of Hawaii is requested to submit a report on the status of the  
 11 systemwide Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs to  
 12 the Legislature, no later than twenty days prior to the  
 13 convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

14  
 15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 16 Resolution be transmitted to the President and the Chairperson  
 17 of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii and the  
 18 members of the University of Hawaii Student Caucus.

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OFFERED BY:

*[Handwritten Signature]*

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