
HOUSE 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

6
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

18
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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32 WHEREAS, the Library System, however, has not expanded its
33 library hours enough to meet the demands of its patrons; and

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1 WHEREAS, recent reports indicate that the State will enjoy
2 a budget surplus of more than \$540,000,000 in the upcoming
3 fiscal year; and
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5 WHEREAS, considering this optimistic budgetary forecast for
6 the State, expanding library hours for Library System patrons
7 should be a top budget priority; now, therefore,
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
11 of 2006, that the Governor and the State Librarian are requested
12 to restore library hours for the Hawaii State Public Library
13 System to meet the needs of Library System patrons; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the State Librarian,
17 and the Chairperson of the Board of Education.
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OFFERED BY:

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