
SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING A FOUR-YEAR DEGREE PROGRAM IN HISTORIC PRESERVATION
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

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2 WHEREAS, the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966
3 states "the historical and cultural foundations of the Nation
4 should be preserved as a living part of our community life and
5 development in order to give a sense of orientation to the
6 American people"; and

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8 WHEREAS, the state of Hawaii recognized this commitment to
9 historic preservation in H.R.S. §6E-1, stating in part "the
10 legislature further declares that it is in the public interest
11 to engage in a comprehensive program of historic preservation at
12 all levels of government to promote the use and conservation of
13 such property for the education, inspiration, pleasure, and
14 enrichment of its citizens"; and

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16 WHEREAS, Hawaii has a unique and spectacular history found
17 nowhere else in the world that should be preserved and shared
18 for current and future generations and with the millions of
19 individuals who visit the state each year; and

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21 WHEREAS, historic preservation is a dynamic field that
22 focuses on the care and management of the built environment and
23 the protection of other cultural resources; and

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25 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa currently offers
26 a Graduate Certificate in Historic Preservation, to be completed
27 alone or in conjunction with another graduate certificate or
28 degree program; and

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30 WHEREAS, there are over two dozen higher learning
31 institutions in the country that currently offer degrees or
32 other courses or training in historic preservation; and

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34 WHEREAS, the University's Historic Preservation program has
35 benefited from the experience and expertise of its faculty and
36 lecturers and distinguished visiting professors, in addition to



1 its annual Preservation Field Schools, which are intensive
2 summer programs that provide students from Hawaii and all over
3 the world with hands-on experience working with neighborhoods or
4 buildings worthy of documentation and analysis; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Department of American Studies at the
7 University of Hawai`i at Manoa is currently in the process of
8 trying to realign its courses to include Historic Preservation
9 with the required coursework for a prospective degree program
10 within these fields, which would succeed in training museum and
11 historic preservation staff in the State and would be an
12 investment in Hawaii's heritage and future care of its heritage
13 resources; and

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15 WHEREAS, one of the goals of the historic preservation
16 program is the expansion of a community's awareness about the
17 opportunities that exist for preservation within its
18 neighborhood; and

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20 WHEREAS, the current certificate program at the University
21 of Hawai`i at Manoa attempts to keep issues of cultural identity
22 and the recognition of traditional cultural properties at the
23 forefront of discussions and instruction, and are interested in
24 increasing Native and indigenous participation in the respectful
25 presentation and use of Native cultural resources housed within
26 museum collections; and

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28 WHEREAS, these degree programs would establish Hawaii as a
29 leader in heritage issues for the Pacific Rim and would attract
30 students internationally, especially from the Asia Pacific
31 region, and could positively impact Hawaii and other island
32 cultures that are concerned with preserving their heritages and
33 negotiating tourism; now, therefore,

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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-third
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006,
37 that this body requests the University of Hawai`i to create a
38 four-year degree program within the discipline of Historic
39 Preservation at the University of Hawaii at Manoa; and

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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Resolution be transmitted to the President of the University of
43 Hawai`i and the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai`i.
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S.R. NO. 141

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OFFERED BY: *Therese Crown Oakland*

