
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM TO PERFORM A
FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR IMPLEMENTING A SYSTEM WIDE SENIOR
CITIZEN VISITOR PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZEN STUDENTS.

1 WHEREAS, prior to 1995, there existed a Hawaii state law
2 that required the University of Hawaii to allow senior citizens
3 who were age sixty or older and Hawaii residents to enroll in
4 university courses without payment of tuition or fees; and
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6 WHEREAS, Act 161, Session Laws of Hawaii 1995, repealed
7 this and other statutorily mandated tuition waiver programs as
8 part of an initiative to allow the University of Hawaii System
9 to set tuition policies and thereby exert direct management over
10 the resources being generated at the university and community
11 college campuses; and
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13 WHEREAS, since the repeal of this law, the University of
14 Hawaii at Manoa campus has instituted the Senior Citizen Visitor
15 Program, which allows seniors to visit university courses free
16 of charge; provided that they have the consent of the
17 instructors, are not awarded university credits, and there is
18 space available in the course; and
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20 WHEREAS, amongst the other University of Hawaii campuses
21 and community colleges, there seems to be disparate treatment of
22 senior citizens who request to attend courses as visitors,
23 ranging from a strict prohibition, to a case-by-case exception
24 by campus administration, to permission being extended by
25 individual faculty members; and
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27 WHEREAS, many other state university systems still maintain
28 either through law or policy, programs to allow tuition-free
29 attendance by senior citizens in university courses; and
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31 WHEREAS, as expressed in the University of Hawaii at Manoa
32 program policy, the presence of senior citizens on the

1 university campuses "adds to the diversity of campus culture and
2 they contribute from their life experience to the classroom
3 setting;" and
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5 WHEREAS, allowing senior citizens to attend university
6 courses without cost to the senior citizen supports the
7 important concept of lifelong learning that the State wants to
8 instill in our children and youth; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
12 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the University of
13 Hawaii System is requested to perform a feasibility study for
14 implementing a system wide Senior Citizen Visitor Program to
15 allow senior citizen students to visit university courses free
16 of charge or at reduced rates; provided that the study consider,
17 in regards to the implementation of the program, that:
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19 (1) The consent of the instructors must be obtained;
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21 (2) These students will be ineligible to earn university
22 credits; and
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24 (3) Space is available in courses to accommodate these
25 students.
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii System
28 is requested to include in the feasibility study provisions for
29 disseminating information about the Senior Citizen Visitor
30 Program on each campus and community college website, and
31 provide information about the program to the Executive Office on
32 Aging, each county area Office on Aging, and each library within
33 the public library system; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii submit
36 a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to
37 the convening of the Regular Session of 2008 on its findings,
38 plan and efforts to establish and implement a system wide Senior
39 Citizen Visitor Program; and
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41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
43 Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, the President of
44 the University of Hawaii System, the Chancellor of each

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1 University of Hawaii campus, the Provost of each community
2 college, the State Librarian, the Executive Director of the
3 Executive Office on Aging, and the County Executive of each
4 county Office on Aging.

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