HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII ARTS CENTER FOR YOUTH, THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, AND THE UNIVERSITY LABORATORY SCHOOL TO WORK TOGETHER TO COLLABORATE TO ESTABLISH A FACILITY FOR THE HAWAII ARTS CENTER FOR YOUTH ON THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT UNIVERSITY AVENUE AND DOLE STREET.

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth, a Hawaii corporation, is a support organization of Ballet Hawaii, Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, Hawaii Youth Symphony, and the Honolulu Theatre for Youth; and

WHEREAS, the four performing arts organizations directly provide arts education programming for more than six thousand of Hawaii's students on all islands each year and indirectly serve more than 121,000 children, youth, families and seniors through performances on different islands each year; and

WHEREAS, the direct correlation between arts education and improved academic performance is time-honored and proven; and

WHEREAS, after cumulatively serving Hawaii for more than one hundred seventy years, Ballet Hawaii, the Hawaii Youth Opera Chorus, the Hawaii Youth Symphony, and the Honolulu Theatre for Youth currently lease space in urban Honolulu and have been forced to relocate many times; and

WHEREAS, the four performing arts organizations would all benefit from the development of a facility to co-locate their combined offices, classroom, rehearsal, and shop space that would allow for more efficient and effective operations through shared business practices and shared location; and

WHEREAS, having permanent, secure space to consider home would allow each organization to better plan for their future

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and expand programming to service even greater numbers of Hawaii's youth; and

WHEREAS, the College of Education's University Laboratory School lost its performing arts facilities in the 2006 on-campus fire; and

WHEREAS, the development of a Hawaii Arts Center for Youth on land at University Avenue and Dole Street would be an ideal location for a joint project that would allow for in-school programming for University Laboratory School, College of Education teacher preparation, and out-of-school programming for the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth constituents, thereby optimizing the usage of the Center; and

WHEREAS, the location would allow for other University of Hawaii departments such as theater, dance, and music to utilize the Center as a natural "laboratory" where university students can gain training in arts education and engage in collaborative projects: an ideal place for research and curriculum development in the performing arts; and

WHEREAS, establishing the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth would create a national model for arts education, offering a full spectrum of training and opening the door for innovative collaborations among different levels of the education continuum from kindergarten to post-graduate levels; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature strongly urges the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth, the College of Education of the University of Hawaii, and the University Laboratory School to collaborate on the establishing of a facility for the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth on the property located at University Avenue and Dole Street; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth is requested to submit to the Legislature a report on the status of the establishment of a Hawaii Arts Center for Youth, together with findings and recommendations no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Superintendent of Education, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Director of the Hawaii Arts Center for Youth, the Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, the Dean of the University of Hawaii College of Education, and the Interim Principal of the University Laboratory School.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 4 2007