## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR TO ASSESS AND RECOMMEND CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF STATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.

WHEREAS, ample evidence has been presented to the legislature that Hawaii is facing serious shortages of numbers of workers and adequate worker skills to meet the challenges of global competition in the twenty-first century; and

WHEREAS, projections indicate that over the next eight to ten years Hawaii will need to fill nearly twice as many jobs as there are young people coming of working age in the state; and

WHEREAS, the effective and optimal performance of federal and state workforce development programs are essential to meet these challenges; and

WHEREAS, the responsibility of economic development is to support the development of high skilled industry; and

WHEREAS, the roles of economic development and workforce development have become increasingly interdependent; and

WHEREAS, proposals have been made in the current and past legislative sessions to realign workforce development and economic development to jointly address Hawaii's workforce and economic development challenges; and

WHEREAS, at least eight states have combined their statelevel economic development and workforce development functions; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the Office of the Auditor is requested to assess the status and the effectiveness

## H.C.R. NO. 222

of the current administration of workforce development programs in the State, and recommend the optimal realignment of workforce administration that offers the best, long-term structure for addressing Hawaii's serious labor and skill shortages; and

5 6

1

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Office of the Auditor is requested to report its findings, including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008; and

9 10 11

12

13 14

7

8

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism and the Workforce Development Council.

15 16 17

18

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 4 2007