
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO ESTABLISH A FULL-TIME
FACULTY POSITION IN THE AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH IN THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES, WHOSE DUTIES WOULD
INCLUDE RESEARCH ON HAWAII'S PROBLEM OF CHILDHOOD OBESITY.

1 WHEREAS, childhood obesity is a major public health concern
2 in Hawaii and the nation; and
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4 WHEREAS, recent studies have shown that the percentage of
5 children who are overweight or at-risk for being overweight has
6 been increasing rapidly; and
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8 WHEREAS, the significant increase in childhood obesity can
9 be linked to changes in the environment such as: decreases in
10 the percentage rates of children who walk to school, less time
11 devoted to physical education, increases in food portion sizes,
12 and the easy availability of unhealthy foods; and
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14 WHEREAS, these environmental influences could result in an
15 unprecedented generation of children who will have a shorter
16 life expectancy than their parents; and
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18 WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii would benefit from expertise
19 in the environmental causes of childhood obesity;
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21 WHEREAS, a full-time faculty position in the University of
22 Hawaii, Department of Public Health Sciences, would help to
23 document the relative impact of these environmental changes on
24 childhood obesity and develop interventions to mitigate their
25 negative effects; now, therefore,
26

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
28 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
29 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the University of
30 Hawaii is requested to establish a full-time faculty position in



the area of environmental health in the Department of Public Health Sciences, whose duties would include research on Hawaii's problem of childhood obesity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the President, and the Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY: _____

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