HOUSE 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.

WHEREAS, childhood obesity is a major public health concern in Hawaii and the nation; and

WHEREAS, recent studies have shown that the percentage of children who are overweight or at-risk for being overweight has been increasing rapidly; and

WHEREAS, the significant increase in childhood obesity can be linked to changes in the environment such as: decreases in the percentage rates of children who walk to school, less time devoted to physical education, increases in food portion sizes, and the easy availability of unhealthy foods; and

WHEREAS, these environmental influences could result in an unprecedented generation of children who will have a shorter life expectancy than their parents; and

WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii would benefit from expertise in the environmental causes of childhood obesity;

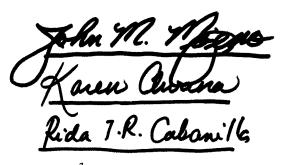
WHEREAS, a full-time faculty position in the University of Hawaii, Department of Public Health Sciences, would help to document the relative impact of these environmental changes on childhood obesity and develop interventions to mitigate their negative effects; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the University of 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

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

OFFERED BY:



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