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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

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EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION.

1 WHEREAS, the foundations of international education are:

2  
3 (1) The mobility of students and scholars who serve as  
4 cultural ambassadors between and among countries by  
5 participating in programs such as exchanges and study  
6 abroad;

7  
8 (2) A curriculum that teaches foreign languages, addresses  
9 global issues, and provides in-depth understanding of  
10 other cultures; and

11  
12 (3) Collaborative multi-national research that leads to  
13 new knowledge and technological breakthroughs;

14  
15 and

16  
17 WHEREAS, with today's increasingly complex international  
18 trade relations, concern for the preservation of our global  
19 environment, and the constant goal of world peace, the promotion  
20 and support of international education becomes increasingly  
21 important to our national security, foreign policy, economic  
22 competitiveness, and capacity for tolerance; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, because tourism and foreign trade are key sectors  
25 of Hawaii's economic future, it is vital that this State  
26 promotes mutual understanding between the people of Hawaii and  
27 citizens of other countries through international education  
28 programs in a variety of settings, including public and private  
29 elementary and secondary schools; colleges, universities, and  
30 other proprietary academic institutions; and other educational  
31 and research organizations; and



1 WHEREAS, Hawaii enrolled over 6,000 international students  
2 at the post-secondary level alone during the 2005-2006 academic  
3 year but sends less than two percent of its local students  
4 abroad to study each year, while the most competitive U.S.  
5 educational institutions are increasing their targets to have 10  
6 percent to 100 percent of their students engage in formal  
7 international study prior to graduation; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, international education enhances social and  
10 cultural diversity both in and out of the classroom, and  
11 contributes in excess of \$110 million to the state economy each  
12 year; and

13  
14 WHEREAS, Hawaii has historically welcomed immigrants who  
15 bring diverse talents and perspectives; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, Hawaii's educational institutions must continue to  
18 strengthen their capacity to provide necessary skills,  
19 knowledge, and training for new residents from abroad, while  
20 increasing opportunities for local students to acquire the  
21 linguistic and intercultural skills to interact effectively  
22 within the changing multicultural context of the state; and

23  
24 WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of State and the U.S.  
25 Department of Education have sponsored a nationwide  
26 International Education Week since 2000 to raise Americans'  
27 awareness of the importance of international education; and

28  
29 WHEREAS, the Governor issued a proclamation on November 6,  
30 2006, declaring the week of November 13 through 17, 2006, as  
31 International Education Week in Hawaii; now, therefore,

32  
33 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
34 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
35 Session of 2007, that this body finds that international  
36 education is an essential component of Hawaii's future; and

37  
38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports and  
39 encourages international education to ensure that students and  
40 future leaders are prepared to meet the challenges of a global  
41 society; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body recognizes that the  
2 international students and scholars of this state contribute  
3 significantly to the cultural diversity of Hawaii's educational  
4 institutions and, through their representation, enhance the  
5 educational experience of all students while making important  
6 contributions, and this body therefore supports the  
7 participation of Hawaii's students, teachers, administrators,  
8 and educational policymakers in international studies and  
9 exchange programs, and other activities that advance  
10 intercultural awareness and promote mutual understanding and  
11 respect for the citizens of other countries; and  
12

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body encourages colleges  
14 and universities to:  
15

- 16 (1) Develop and enhance courses of study to increase  
17 students' understanding of global issues and cultural  
18 differences;  
19
- 20 (2) Continue efforts to further develop courses in foreign  
21 languages to prepare students to seek careers in a  
22 global marketplace and enhance their understanding of  
23 the values of other nations;  
24
- 25 (3) Facilitate the presence of qualified students from  
26 other countries with sufficient geographic diversity  
27 to inspire an appreciation for differences among  
28 cultures and a deeper understanding of the values and  
29 perspectives of other people;  
30
- 31 (4) Facilitate scholarly exchanges and collaborative  
32 research partnerships with educational institutions in  
33 other countries;  
34
- 35 (5) Encourage educational institutions to recruit and  
36 retain excellent faculty to enable Hawaii's students  
37 to become competent global citizens;  
38
- 39 (6) Develop greater participation in education abroad  
40 programs by local students in all disciplines,



1 especially underrepresented students who historically  
2 have not participated in such opportunities;

3  
4 (7) Support the efforts of educational institutions to  
5 provide opportunities for domestic and international  
6 students to interact effectively and routinely to  
7 share their views, perceptions, and experiences; and

8  
9 (8) Develop innovative public educational forums and  
10 venues to explore global issues and showcase world  
11 cultures;

12  
13 and

14  
15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Legislature  
16 will consider these goals when creating laws that will impact  
17 international education efforts in the state; and

18  
19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, President of the  
21 Senate, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chair of the  
22 Board of Regents, President of the University of Hawaii, Chair  
23 of the Board of Education, Superintendent of Education, and the  
24 respective executive directors of the University of Hawaii  
25 Professional Assembly, NAFSA: Association of International  
26 Educators, Hawaii Association of Independent Schools, and Hawaii  
27 State Teachers Association.

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29  
30 OFFERED BY:

*Fida T. R. Abdulla - Akakawa*  
*Mele Carrer*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*

MAR 14 2007

