
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CENTER ON SOCIAL WORK AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK.

1 WHEREAS, social work is a vital component of the social
2 welfare system in Hawaii and the nation, providing critical
3 intervention with issues related to social function faced by
4 individuals, families, communities, and organizations; and
5

6 WHEREAS, the vitality and well-being of the entire State of
7 Hawaii is intrinsically linked to the strength of its social
8 work profession; and
9

10 WHEREAS, the complexity of social issues is constantly
11 increasing, necessitating more, better, and ongoing training of
12 social work professionals; and
13

14 WHEREAS, Hawaii has been plagued by a perennial shortage of
15 social workers, resulting in drastic measures such as the
16 decertification of social work positions in the Department of
17 Human Services in 2005; and
18

19 WHEREAS, both the social work community and decision-makers
20 in the state have had to operate in a virtual vacuum because of
21 a serious dearth of meaningful data in areas such as workforce
22 status and needs, program and practice effectiveness, capacity
23 building, and social policy development; and
24

25 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa School of Social
26 Work (UHM-SSW) is in the unique position of being able to
27 perform high-level research and establish collaborative programs
28 with community organizations to promote evidence-based and
29 culturally appropriate intervention strategies; now, therefore,



1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 2 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 3 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature
 4 supports the establishment of a Center on Social Work (Center)
 5 at UHM-SSW; and
 6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and
 8 Consumer Affairs (DCCA) is requested to work with UHM-SSW and
 9 the Hawaii Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers
 10 (NASW) to explore the implementation of a surcharge attached to
 11 social work licensing fees to provide partial funding for the
 12 Center; and
 13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DCCA is requested to submit a
 15 report on the progress on this issue to the Legislature no later
 16 than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 17 2009; and
 18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 20 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce
 21 and Consumer Affairs, Director of Human Services, Dean of UHM-
 22 SSW, and President of the Hawaii Chapter of NASW.
 23
 24
 25

OFFERED BY:

John M. M...
J. Nil. Karamita

[Signature]
Marilyn Magaway
Tom Brown

[Signature]
Robert D. Sagan III

[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]