
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS TO DEVELOP
PLANS FOR A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR HAWAII RESIDENTS TO
STUDY ABROAD.

1 WHEREAS, a National Geographic global literacy survey found
2 that 87 percent of students in the United States between the
3 ages of 18 and 24 cannot locate Iraq on a world map, 83 percent
4 cannot find Afghanistan, 58 percent cannot find Japan, and 11
5 percent cannot even find the United States; and

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7 WHEREAS, according to the Coalition for International
8 Education, institutions of higher education in the United States
9 are struggling to graduate enough students with the language
10 skills and cultural competence necessary to meet the current
11 demands of business, government, and educational institutions;
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, through the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
15 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), the United States Congress recognized that
16 the security, stability, and economic vitality of the nation in
17 an increasingly complex global age depends largely upon having a
18 globally competent citizenry and the availability of experts who
19 specialize in world regions and foreign languages; and

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21 WHEREAS, with today's increasingly complex trade relations,
22 concern for the preservation of our global environment, and the
23 constant goal of world peace, international education becomes
24 increasingly important to our national security, foreign policy,
25 economic competitiveness, and capacity for tolerance; and

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27 WHEREAS, educating students through study abroad programs
28 is an important way to share the values of Hawaii and the United
29 States, to create goodwill for Hawaii and the United States
30 around the world, and to work toward a peaceful global society;
31 and

32 WHEREAS, study abroad programs help students from Hawaii to
33 be more informed about the world and to develop the cultural



1 awareness necessary to avoid offending individuals from other
2 countries; and

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4 WHEREAS, study abroad programs not only open doors to
5 foreign language learning, but also empower students to better
6 understand themselves and others through a comparison of
7 cultural values and ways of life; and

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9 WHEREAS, students gain:

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11 (1) A deeper knowledge and understanding of other cultures
12 and their environments;
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14 (2) Different perspectives in regard to other nations;
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16 (3) Increased capacity to analyze issues with appreciation
17 for disparate viewpoints; and
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19 (4) Increased respect and tolerance of differences—all
20 contributing to a citizenry better able to succeed in
21 the twenty-first century; and

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23 WHEREAS, Hawaii's educational institutions must continue to
24 increase opportunities for local students to acquire the
25 linguistic and intercultural skills needed to interact
26 effectively within the changing multicultural context of the
27 state; and

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29 WHEREAS, ensuring that the citizens of Hawaii are globally
30 literate is the responsibility of Hawaii's educational system;
31 and

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33 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) provides
34 27 study abroad programs in Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin
35 America, the Pacific and Russia; and

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37 WHEREAS, UH-Manoa provides scholarships for students who
38 are United States citizens who achieve at least a 3.0 grade
39 point average, but does not set aside scholarship moneys
40 specifically for Hawaii residents to travel abroad; and

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42 WHEREAS, for a Hawaii resident, the average cost of
43 attendance at UHM for a semester is \$7,434. In comparison, the



1 average cost of attendance for a semester-long UHM study abroad
2 program is \$13,000; and
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4 WHEREAS, 462 students were able to study abroad during the
5 2007-2008 academic year through the Study Abroad Center at the
6 UHM and fulfill UHM degree requirements; now, therefore,
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8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
9 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
10 of 2009, that the University of Hawaii Board of Regents is
11 requested to develop plans for a scholarship program for Hawaii
12 residents to study abroad; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents is
15 requested to submit a report on its progress to the legislature
16 at least twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
17 session of 2010; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
20 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the University
21 of Hawaii Board of Regents, the President of the University of
22 Hawaii, and the Director of the Study Abroad Center at the
23 University of Hawaii at Manoa.
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