
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO, IN CONSULTATION WITH
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM VICE PRESIDENT FOR
RESEARCH, TO CONSIDER THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN
OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that the mission of the
2 University of Hawaii at Hilo has evolved and expanded in recent
3 years from a principally undergraduate teaching institution to
4 one with a significant research focus on science, technology,
5 engineering, and mathematics; and
6

7 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Hilo reports
8 remarkable growth in its research effort in the first seven
9 years of this decade, with increases of 462.5 per cent in
10 funding and 341 per cent in the number of awards; and
11

12 WHEREAS, this growth has been significantly enabled by the
13 University of Hawaii at Hilo's participation in the National
14 Science Foundation's Experimental Program to Stimulate
15 Competitive Research (EPSCoR); and
16

17 WHEREAS, the emphasis on science, technology, engineering,
18 and mathematics is an important alignment with the State's
19 economic development goal of encouraging an innovation-based
20 economy, which depends on providing students with the advanced
21 skills necessary to succeed in a more complex society; and
22

23 WHEREAS, in 2008, the Chancellor of the University of
24 Hawaii at Hilo established the Interim Vice Chancellor for
25 Research position; and
26

27 WHEREAS, currently the Interim Vice Chancellor for Research
28 is Dr. Michael Crosby, who is on sabbatical from his position as
29 the Executive Director of the National Science Board; and
30

1 WHEREAS, during Dr. Crosby's tenure, University of Hawaii
2 at Hilo faculty, community leaders, and research support staff
3 have developed a new synergy, a sense of collaboration, and
4 partnership; and
5

6 WHEREAS, despite these successes, this interim position
7 will cease to exist in January 2010; and
8

9 WHEREAS, establishing a permanent Office of the Vice
10 Chancellor for Research and Economic Development will serve as a
11 focal point for the provision, strategic leveraging, and
12 coordination of administrative support services necessary to
13 facilitate the growth and expansion of research efforts at the
14 University as well as the successful application and award of
15 grant funds and other extramural funds to support those research
16 efforts, the research experiences of students, and the
17 stimulation of science and technology businesses in the State;
18 now, therefore,
19

20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
22 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of
23 Hawaii at Hilo, in consultation with the University of Hawaii
24 system Vice President for Research, is urged to consider the
25 feasibility of establishing an Office of the Vice Chancellor for
26 Research and Economic Development at the University of Hawaii at
27 Hilo; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at
30 Hilo include, but not be limited to, the following
31 considerations regarding the Office of the Vice Chancellor for
32 Research and Economic Development:
33

- 34 (1) The role of the Office as the overarching
35 institutional focal point for the coordination of all
36 undergraduate and graduate science, technology,
37 engineering, and mathematics mentorship programs and
38 the integration of ongoing and future research
39 projects;
40
- 41 (2) The responsibility of the Office to increase the
42 participation of underrepresented cultural,
43 socioeconomic, and ethnic groups from the Pacific

1 Islands in undergraduate and graduate education in
2 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;

3
4 (3) The responsibility of the Office for all budgeting and
5 fiscal aspects of research grants, including cost
6 effective use of indirect and overhead funds generated
7 by these grants, in order to allow both faculty and
8 students to focus their efforts more directly on their
9 research, education, and training;

10
11 (4) The responsibility of the Office in oversight of
12 compliance with federal and state policies, including
13 post-award monitoring, effort reporting, and audits,
14 regarding research grants at the University of Hawaii
15 at Hilo;

16
17 (5) The responsibility of the Office in leading the
18 efforts of the University of Hawaii at Hilo in science
19 and technology-oriented economic development,
20 encouraging interdisciplinary activities, and
21 fostering programs that promote the science and
22 technology-related economic progress of the State; and
23

24 (6) The short-term and long-term funding requirements,
25 including potential sources of federal, state, and
26 private funds, necessary to establish and maintain the
27 Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and
28 Economic Development, any related faculty, technical,
29 and administrative positions, and any related
30 training, laboratory, equipment, or other capital
31 requirements; and
32

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at
34 Hilo is requested to report its findings and recommendations,
35 including any budget requests and proposed legislation, to the
36 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
37 the Regular Session of 2010; and
38

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
40 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chancellor of the
41 University of Hawaii at Hilo, President of the University of
42 Hawaii System, and Chairperson of the Board of Regents.