
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM TO DETERMINE IF IT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO ESTABLISH A SEPARATE STATEWIDE SYSTEM FOR THE COMMUNITY COLLEGES.

1 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii System consists of three
2 baccalaureate universities and seven community colleges; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Community Colleges of the University of Hawaii
5 System have a unique social responsibility reflected in their
6 mission, to put postsecondary education within the reach of
7 every resident who wants and can benefit from it; and
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9 WHEREAS, as open-door, low-tuition institutions, the
10 Community Colleges of the University of Hawaii System offer
11 state residents access through seven degree-granting campuses,
12 affiliated outreach centers, and a flexible, short-term,
13 workforce training center; and
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15 WHEREAS, it is not uncommon for fifty to ninety per cent of
16 incoming freshmen to place in remedial or developmental courses
17 in reading, writing, mathematics, or any combination of these
18 three subjects, which in turn requires different kinds of
19 staffing ratios and staff support than in baccalaureate
20 campuses; and
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22 WHEREAS, the National Center for Higher Education
23 Management System reports that the Community Colleges of the
24 University of Hawaii System should be receiving higher levels of
25 state funding relative to the baccalaureate campuses; and
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27 WHEREAS, the Community Colleges of the University of Hawaii
28 System would benefit from a system with institutions of like
29 mission and a commitment to affordability, a mission that
30 differs from that of the baccalaureate campuses, and a system

1 that is not in competition with baccalaureate campuses for
2 resources and administrative attention; and

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4 WHEREAS, establishing a governance system just for
5 community colleges in Hawaii might enhance, rather than
6 constrict, the opportunities for students to move freely between
7 community colleges and baccalaureate campuses because the
8 community colleges' governing board would be on an equal footing
9 with the governing board of the baccalaureate campuses; now,
10 therefore,

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12 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
13 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
14 House of Representatives concurring, that the Auditor is
15 requested to conduct a study of the Community Colleges of the
16 University of Hawaii System to determine if it would be
17 beneficial to establish a separate statewide system for the
18 Community Colleges; and

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to
21 review other states, such as California and Oregon, which have
22 separate systems for state community colleges and state
23 baccalaureate and graduate program colleges and universities;
24 and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the report include, but not be
27 limited to:

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29 (1) An overview of the Community Colleges of the
30 University of Hawaii System and the current
31 administrative, financial, and academic relationships
32 between the Community Colleges and the University of
33 Hawaii System;
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35 (2) A comparison of the Community Colleges of the
36 University of Hawaii System and selected states that
37 have established separate systems;
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39 (3) The administrative, financial, and academic advantages
40 and disadvantages of establishing a separate system
41 for the seven Community Colleges of the University of
42 Hawaii System; and
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1 (4) The academic advantages and disadvantages to include
2 an assessment of the various means currently employed
3 to effect articulation for community college students
4 that would either no longer be necessary or improved
5 upon by the separation of governance; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor shall submit the
8 study to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
9 convening of the Regular Session of 2010, including any
10 recommendations for legislation and funding; and
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12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
13 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Auditor, the
14 President of the University of Hawaii System, and the Vice
15 President for Community Colleges of the University of Hawaii
16 System.
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