
SENATE 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
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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
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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
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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
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23 WHEREAS, in 2008, the Chancellor of the University of
24 Hawaii at Hilo established the Interim Vice Chancellor for
25 Research position; and
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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
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31 WHEREAS, during Dr. Crosby's tenure, University of Hawaii
32 at Hilo faculty, community leaders, and research support staff

1 have developed a new synergy, a sense of collaboration, and
2 partnership; and
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4 WHEREAS, despite these successes, this interim position
5 will cease to exist in January 2010; and
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7 WHEREAS, establishing a permanent Office of the Vice
8 Chancellor for Research and Economic Development will serve as a
9 focal point for the provision, strategic leveraging, and
10 coordination of administrative support services necessary to
11 facilitate the growth and expansion of research efforts at the
12 University as well as the successful application and award of
13 grant funds and other extramural funds to support those research
14 efforts, the research experiences of students, and the
15 stimulation of science and technology businesses in the State;
16 now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
20 that the University of Hawaii at Hilo, in consultation with the
21 University of Hawaii system Vice President for Research, is
22 urged to consider the feasibility of establishing an Office of
23 the Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development at the
24 University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at
27 Hilo include, but not be limited to, the following
28 considerations regarding the Office of the Vice Chancellor for
29 Research and Economic Development:
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31 (1) The role of the Office as the overarching
32 institutional focal point for the coordination of all
33 undergraduate and graduate science, technology,
34 engineering, and mathematics mentorship programs and
35 the integration of ongoing and future research
36 projects;
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38 (2) The responsibility of the Office to increase the
39 participation of underrepresented cultural,
40 socioeconomic, and ethnic groups from the Pacific
41 Islands in undergraduate and graduate education in
42 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics;
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- 1 (3) The responsibility of the Office for all budgeting and
2 fiscal aspects of research grants, including cost
3 effective use of indirect and overhead funds generated
4 by these grants, in order to allow both faculty and
5 students to focus their efforts more directly on their
6 research, education, and training;
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- 8 (4) The responsibility of the Office in oversight of
9 compliance with federal and state policies, including
10 post-award monitoring, effort reporting, and audits,
11 regarding research grants at the University of Hawaii
12 at Hilo;
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- 14 (5) The responsibility of the Office in leading the
15 efforts of the University of Hawaii at Hilo in science
16 and technology-oriented economic development,
17 encouraging interdisciplinary activities, and
18 fostering programs that promote the science and
19 technology-related economic progress of the State; and
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- 21 (6) The short-term and long-term funding requirements,
22 including potential sources of federal, state, and
23 private funds, necessary to establish and maintain the
24 Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and
25 Economic Development, any related faculty, technical,
26 and administrative positions, and any related
27 training, laboratory, equipment, or other capital
28 requirements; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at
31 Hilo is requested to report its findings and recommendations,
32 including any budget requests and proposed legislation, to the
33 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
34 the Regular Session of 2010; and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Resolution be transmitted to the Chancellor of the University of
38 Hawaii at Hilo, President of the University of Hawaii System,
39 and Chairperson of the Board of Regents.