
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE BE ESTABLISHED TO IDENTIFY THE
LIBRARY SERVICES NEEDED IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND SEEK
COMMUNITY SOURCES OF FUNDING TO OFFSET THE LOSS OF FUNDING
TO LIBRARIES.

1 WHEREAS, an informed citizenry is the foundation of
2 democracy; and

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4 WHEREAS, since Benjamin Franklin formed the first public
5 library, public libraries, which are open to all people
6 regardless of age, race, gender, social condition, and religion,
7 have been a major component of informing the public in all
8 aspects of the informational spectrum; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Public Library System has been
11 mandated to supply all the people of Hawaii with access to
12 information and educational and recreational materials, while
13 preserving the right to privacy; and

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15 WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Public Library System has been
16 heavily impacted by both an increase in population in
17 underserved areas and the heavy expenses of updating and
18 supporting current informational technologies; and

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20 WHEREAS, budgetary constraints have forced workforce
21 reductions of approximately seventy-eight positions out of
22 approximately five hundred eighty-four positions, and libraries
23 in Hawaii are now facing additional budget cuts; and

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25 WHEREAS, adequate resources to correct this situation to
26 supply the people of Hawaii with the library and information
27 services necessary to maintain the basic standard of service are
28 not available; and

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30 WHEREAS, this creates an inequity in service to the people
31 of the State; now, therefore,



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the
4 House of Representatives concurring, that the State Librarian is
5 requested to establish a task force composed of representatives
6 of public and private organizations, philanthropic and
7 commercial organizations, governmental and nongovernmental
8 organizations, and cultural and geographic communities from all
9 islands; and

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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
12 identify the library services needed in underserved communities,
13 including resources that can be developed, and facilities,
14 collections, staffing, hours of operation, and services that
15 will be needed; and

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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
18 seek community sources of funding to offset the loss of funding
19 from the Department of Education to community and school
20 libraries; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
23 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the Regular Session of 2011; and

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall become a
28 permanent resource to assist the State Librarian in developing
29 and updating the Hawaii State Public Library System long-range
30 master plan; and

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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
33 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
34 Board of Education and the State Librarian.

