
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CANCER RESEARCH CENTER OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii was
2 established by the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii
3 in 1981; and

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5 WHEREAS, the mission of the Cancer Research Center of
6 Hawaii is to reduce the burden of cancer through research,
7 education, and outreach, with an emphasis on the unique ethnic,
8 cultural, and environmental characteristics of Hawaii and the
9 Pacific; and

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11 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is a research
12 unit of the University of Hawaii at Manoa and currently
13 employs two hundred eighty people, of whom thirty-four are
14 core faculty; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii currently
17 conducts more than one hundred research projects in four
18 programs: epidemiology, with a focus on nutrition,
19 biostatistics, and genetics; natural products, which includes
20 chemistry, cell/molecular biology, botany, biochemistry,
21 immunology, and pharmacology; prevention and control, which
22 focuses on clinical aspects of cancer and the reduction of
23 incidence through interventions; and carcinogenesis, which
24 examines how environmental and chemical carcinogens, viruses,
25 and genetics interact; and

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27 WHEREAS, it is estimated that 1,300,000 people in the
28 United States will be diagnosed with cancer this year and in
29 Hawaii, approximately five thousand men and women are diagnosed
30 with the disease each year; and

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1 WHEREAS, in November 2009, the University of Hawaii at
2 Manoa announced plans to build a new cancer research facility in
3 Kakaako, with construction expected to begin in 2010; and
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5 WHEREAS, since 1996, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii
6 has been a designated cancer center of the National Cancer
7 Institute and must meet strict standards to receive designation
8 and support; and
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10 WHEREAS, the distinction of being a designated cancer
11 center of the National Cancer Institute recognizes a cancer
12 center's scientific excellence and capability to integrate a
13 diversity of research approaches to focus on the problem of
14 cancer; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is one of
17 only sixty-five National Cancer Institute designated centers in
18 the United States, and is the only designated cancer center in
19 Hawaii; and
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21 WHEREAS, four years ago, the National Cancer Institute
22 recommended that the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii expand its
23 capacity to house more researchers and physicians; this
24 recommendation will be addressed with the construction of the
25 new facility; and
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27 WHEREAS, the unique and varied ethnic composition of the
28 State presents researchers with opportunities to decrease the
29 burden of cancer in high-risk groups, and to develop novel
30 preventative and clinical strategies for the people of Hawaii;
31 and
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33 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii will work in
34 consortium composed of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's John
35 A. Burns School of Medicine, the Queen's Medical Center, Hawaii
36 Pacific Health, and other hospitals to offer patients the latest
37 cancer therapies and clinical trials that would not otherwise be
38 available; and
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40 WHEREAS, a cutting edge research facility will help attract
41 and retain top tier researchers; foster synergy and innovation
42 between physicians, researchers, and students; and increase
43 space and resource efficiencies, while bringing to the State
44 \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 in grant funding annually; and



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WHEREAS, the unique geographical location of Hawaii makes it imperative for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii to maintain its National Cancer Institute designation, ensuring that the residents of Hawaii have access to the most current therapeutic options and clinical trials close to home; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature expresses strong support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the National Cancer Institute, the President of the University of Hawaii System, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and the Director of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

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JAN 22 2010

