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# 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 employs  
13 two hundred eighty people, of whom thirty-four are core faculty;  
14 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 and molecular biology, botany, biochemistry,  
21 immunology, and pharmacology; prevention and control, which  
22 focuses on clinical aspects of cancer and the reduction of  
23 cancer incidence through interventions; and carcinogenesis,  
24 which examines how environmental and chemical carcinogens,  
25 viruses, 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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32           WHEREAS, in November 2009, the University of Hawaii at  
33 Manoa announced plans to build a new cancer research facility in  
34 Kakaako, with construction expected to begin in 2010; and



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WHEREAS, since 1996, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii has been a designated cancer center of the National Cancer Institute and must meet strict standards to receive this designation and support; and

WHEREAS, the distinction of being a designated cancer center of the National Cancer Institute recognizes a cancer center's scientific excellence and capability to integrate a diversity of research approaches to focus on the problem of cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is one of only sixty-five National Cancer Institute designated centers in the United States, and is the only designated cancer center in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, four years ago, the National Cancer Institute recommended that the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii expand its capacity to house more researchers and physicians; this recommendation will be addressed with the construction of the new facility; and

WHEREAS, the unique and varied ethnic composition of the State presents researchers with opportunities to decrease the burden of cancer in high-risk groups, and to develop novel preventative and clinical strategies for the people of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii will work in a consortium composed of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine, The Queen's Medical Center, Hawaii Pacific Health, and other hospitals to offer patients the latest cancer therapies and clinical trials that would not otherwise be available; and

WHEREAS, a cutting edge research facility will help attract and retain top tier researchers; foster synergy and innovation among physicians, researchers, and students; and increase space and resource efficiencies, while bringing to the State \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 in grant funding annually; and

WHEREAS, the unique geographical location of Hawaii makes it imperative for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii to

1 maintain its National Cancer Institute designation, ensuring  
2 that the residents of Hawaii have access to the most current  
3 therapeutic options and clinical trials close to home; now,  
4 therefore,  
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
7 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
8 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Legislature expresses  
9 strong support for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii; and  
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11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
13 National Cancer Institute, the President of the University of  
14 Hawaii System, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at  
15 Manoa, and the Director of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

