

MAR 16 2011

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE WORKFORCE PIPELINE PROGRAM OF THE THIRTY METER  
TELESCOPE PROJECT.

1           WHEREAS, in the 2001 Decadal Survey for Astronomy conducted  
2 by the United States National Research Council, the scientific  
3 community identified the critical need for a telescope with a  
4 thirty meter primary mirror capable of achieving better  
5 resolution and light-gathering power than any observatory  
6 constructed to date; and  
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8           WHEREAS, subsequently, the Thirty Meter Telescope  
9 Observatory Corporation, a non-profit company, was formed to  
10 plan, design, build, and operate the Thirty Meter Telescope; and  
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12           WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is a  
13 partnership of the University of California, California  
14 Institute of Technology, and the Association of Canadian  
15 Universities for Research in Astronomy, with the National  
16 Astronomical Observatory of Japan as a collaborating agency; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope will be the world's  
19 most advanced and capable observatory, with the ability to study  
20 objects too faint or too distant to observe with existing  
21 facilities, and will be a key tool for answering many of the  
22 most compelling and important questions in all of science,  
23 including the evolution of galaxies and the formation of stars  
24 and planets; and  
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26           WHEREAS, in July 2009, the Board of Directors of the Thirty  
27 Meter Telescope Observatory Corporation selected Mauna Kea on  
28 Hawaii Island as the preferred site for the Thirty Meter  
29 Telescope; and  
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31           WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project would provide  
32 long term potential employment on Hawaii Island for astronomers;  
33 a wide range of engineers and engineering technicians; staff to  
34 maintain and direct equipment at the observatory; and scientific



1 support, public outreach, management, and administrative  
2 personnel; and  
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4 WHEREAS, after the telescope is built, observatory  
5 operations will require approximately one hundred twenty full-  
6 time jobs, and the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is committed  
7 to hiring as many members of the local workforce as possible;  
8 and  
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10 WHEREAS, to achieve this goal, the Thirty Meter Telescope  
11 Project is currently developing a Workforce Pipeline Program to  
12 ensure a highly skilled, local workforce for the Hawaii  
13 observatory, as well as other observatories and high-tech  
14 companies; and  
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16 WHEREAS, the Workforce Pipeline Program will focus on  
17 efforts such as strengthening STEM (Science, Technology,  
18 Engineering, and Math) skills infrastructure, developing or  
19 expanding program and curricula at the University of Hawaii at  
20 Hilo, Hawaii Community College, and Hawaii Island K-12 education  
21 organizations serving lower-income and first-generation college  
22 attendees; and  
23

24 WHEREAS, the Workforce Pipeline Program will include  
25 scholarships, internships, and mentorships to support students  
26 from elementary school to college graduate school, with the  
27 ultimate goal of strengthening STEM skills throughout Hawaii  
28 Island; and  
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30 WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is pursuing  
31 partnerships with the Department of Education, independent and  
32 charter schools, Hawaii Community College, and the University of  
33 Hawaii at Hilo to initiate education and training programs that  
34 will prepare Hawaii's workforce for high technology jobs in the  
35 future; and  
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37 WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is also  
38 pursuing a partnership with Imiloa Astronomy Center, a part of  
39 the University of Hawaii at Hilo, in its workforce pipeline  
40 efforts to provide cultural grounding to its technical and  
41 educational training; and  
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43 WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project also hopes to  
44 explore collaborative relationships with Hawaiian organizations



1 including Kamehameha Schools, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,  
2 and Alu Like; and  
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4 WHEREAS, the Workforce Pipeline Program will provide a much  
5 needed community benefit with positive long term effects for the  
6 people of Hawaii Island and the State of Hawaii; and  
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8 WHEREAS, although full implementation of the Workforce  
9 Pipeline Program is not expected to commence until after  
10 construction is underway, it is incumbent upon the Thirty Meter  
11 Telescope Project to begin the process of outlining its  
12 workforce pipeline goals, strategies, outcomes, and proposed  
13 collaborative partners; now, therefore,  
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15 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
16 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,  
17 that the Legislature supports and encourages the Thirty Meter  
18 Telescope Observatory Corporation's collaboration with the  
19 Department of Education; independent and charter schools; Hawaii  
20 Community College; the University of Hawaii at Hilo; state,  
21 county, and private-sector workforce entities; community  
22 organizations; and the astronomy industry to help develop,  
23 implement, and sustain a comprehensive Workforce Pipeline  
24 Program that will prepare the local workforce for employment at  
25 the Thirty Meter Telescope Project and other high technology  
26 projects in Hawaii; and  
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirty Meter Telescope  
29 Project is encouraged to identify appropriate apprenticeship  
30 program opportunities with relevant trades and to formulate a  
31 preliminary curriculum for students interested in STEM fields;  
32 and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
35 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the University  
36 of Hawaii Board of Regents, the President of the University of  
37 Hawaii, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, the  
38 Chancellor of Hawaii Community College, the Chairperson of the  
39 Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, the  
40 Executive Director of the Charter School Administrative Office,  
41 the Executive Director of the Hawaii Association of Independent



1 Schools, and the Chairperson of the Thirty Meter Telescope  
2 Observatory Corporation Board of Directors.  
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OFFERED BY:

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