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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT A TASK FORCE BE ESTABLISHED TO IDENTIFY THE  
LIBRARY SERVICES NEEDED IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES AND SEEK  
COMMUNITY RESOURCES 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, these institutions, which are open to all people  
6 regardless of age, race, gender, social condition, or religion,  
7 have had a major role in providing public access to a wide  
8 spectrum of information; and

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10          WHEREAS, the Hawaii State Public Library System has a  
11 responsibility to provide 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 significantly impacted by both an increase in population in  
17 underserved communities and the considerable expenses of  
18 updating and supporting current informational technologies; and

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

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25          WHEREAS, the State lacks adequate resources to maintain the  
26 basic standard of library and information services for  
27 underserved communities; and

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29          WHEREAS, this creates an inequity in library services for  
30 the people of Hawaii; now, therefore,



# H.C.R. NO. 164

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 2 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 3 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 4 of 2011, the Senate 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 of the State; 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 to provide or  
 14 contribute to the acquisition; use, provision, or augmentation  
 15 of necessary facilities, collections, staffing, hours of  
 16 operation, and services; and

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

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 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
 24 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the  
 25 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
 26 the Regular Session of 2012; and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
 29 serve as a permanent, ad hoc resource to assist the State  
 30 Librarian in developing and updating the Hawaii State Public  
 31 Library System long-range master plan; and

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

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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 15 2011

