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# HOUSE 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  
3

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  
9

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,  
31

32 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
33 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session



1 of 2011, that the State Librarian is requested to establish a  
 2 task force composed of representatives of public and private  
 3 organizations, philanthropic and commercial organizations,  
 4 governmental and nongovernmental organizations, and cultural and  
 5 geographic communities from all islands of the State; and  
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
 8 identify the library services needed in underserved communities,  
 9 including resources that can be developed to provide or  
 10 contribute to the acquisition, use, provision, or augmentation  
 11 of necessary facilities, collections, staffing, hours of  
 12 operation, and services; and  
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
 15 seek community sources of funding to offset the loss of funding  
 16 from the Department of Education to community and school  
 17 libraries; and  
 18

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

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

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

OFFERED BY: 

MAR 15 2011

