

MAR 16 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT 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;



1 a wide range of engineers and engineering technicians; staff to
2 maintain and direct equipment at the observatory; and scientific
3 support, public outreach, management, and administrative
4 personnel; and
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6 WHEREAS, after the telescope is built, observatory
7 operations will require approximately one hundred twenty full-
8 time jobs, and the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is committed
9 to hiring as many members of the local workforce as possible;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, to achieve this goal, the Thirty Meter Telescope
13 Project is currently developing a Workforce Pipeline Program to
14 ensure a highly skilled, local workforce for the Hawaii
15 observatory, as well as other observatories and high-tech
16 companies; and
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18 WHEREAS, the Workforce Pipeline Program will focus on
19 efforts such as strengthening STEM (Science, Technology,
20 Engineering, and Math) skills infrastructure, developing or
21 expanding program and curricula at the University of Hawaii at
22 Hilo, Hawaii Community College, and Hawaii Island K-12 education
23 organizations serving lower-income and first-generation college
24 attendees; and
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26 WHEREAS, the Workforce Pipeline Program will include
27 scholarships, internships, and mentorships to support students
28 from elementary school to college graduate school, with the
29 ultimate goal of strengthening STEM skills throughout Hawaii
30 Island; and
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32 WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is pursuing
33 partnerships with the Department of Education, independent and
34 charter schools, Hawaii Community College, and the University of
35 Hawaii at Hilo to initiate education and training programs that
36 will prepare Hawaii's workforce for high technology jobs in the
37 future; and
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39 WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project is also
40 pursuing a partnership with Imiloa Astronomy Center, a part of
41 the University of Hawaii at Hilo, in its workforce pipeline
42 efforts to provide cultural grounding to its technical and
43 educational training; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Thirty Meter Telescope Project also hopes to
2 explore collaborative relationships with Hawaiian organizations
3 including Kamehameha Schools, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs,
4 and Alu Like; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Workforce Pipeline Program will provide a much
7 needed community benefit with positive long term effects for the
8 people of Hawaii Island and the State of Hawaii; and
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10 WHEREAS, although full implementation of the Workforce
11 Pipeline Program is not expected to commence until after
12 construction is underway, it is incumbent upon the Thirty Meter
13 Telescope Project to begin the process of outlining its
14 workforce pipeline goals, strategies, outcomes, and proposed
15 collaborative partners; now, therefore,
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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
18 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
19 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
20 supports and encourages the Thirty Meter Telescope Observatory
21 Corporation's collaboration with the Department of Education;
22 independent and charter schools; Hawaii Community College; the
23 University of Hawaii at Hilo; state, county, and private-sector
24 workforce entities; community organizations; and the astronomy
25 industry to help develop, implement, and sustain a comprehensive
26 Workforce Pipeline Program that will prepare the local workforce
27 for employment at the Thirty Meter Telescope Project and other
28 high technology projects in Hawaii; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thirty Meter Telescope
31 Project is encouraged to identify appropriate apprenticeship
32 program opportunities with relevant trades and to formulate a
33 preliminary curriculum for students interested in STEM fields;
34 and
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36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
38 University of Hawaii Board of Regents, the President of the
39 University of Hawaii, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii
40 at Hilo, the Chancellor of Hawaii Community College, the
41 Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of
42 Education, the Executive Director of the Charter School
43 Administrative Office, the Executive Director of the Hawaii
44 Association of Independent Schools, and the Chairperson of the



1 Thirty Meter Telescope Observatory Corporation Board of
2 Directors.

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OFFERED BY:

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