

MAR 16 2011

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## SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO TO SEARCH FOR A SITE  
IN LOWER PUNA TO HOUSE A LEARNING CENTER.

1           WHEREAS, in the area of higher education, the lower Puna  
2 area on the Big Island is underserved; and

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4           WHEREAS, the establishment of a learning center in lower  
5 Puna on the Big Island would provide surrounding communities  
6 access to higher education and would benefit the University of  
7 Hawaii at Hilo by providing additional educational resources;  
8 and

9  
10          WHEREAS, the mission of the learning center in lower Puna  
11 would be similar to the North Hawaii Education and Research  
12 Center in Honokaa such that the Puna learning center would:

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14           (1) Offer selected courses via live and distance  
15 instruction to an underserved area;
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17           (2) Create a research station that will serve as a base  
18 for research related to lower Puna and other areas of  
19 close proximity;
- 20  
21           (3) Enhance community service efforts of the University of  
22 Hawaii at Hilo;
- 23  
24           (4) Facilitate community outreach and access to higher  
25 education and provide a university presence in the  
26 area of lower Puna for community service and research;  
27 and
- 28  
29           (5) Facilitate student entry into the University of Hawaii  
30 at Hilo and provide access for students in the area of  
31 higher education; and  
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1 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Hilo will require  
2 capital improvement project funding for site location, planning,  
3 design, and construction of a learning center in lower Puna;  
4 now, therefore,  
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the  
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of  
9 Hawaii at Hilo is requested to search for a site in lower Puna  
10 to house a learning center that is comparable to the North  
11 Hawaii Education and Research Center in Honokaa; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting its search, the  
14 University of Hawaii at Hilo is requested to hold community  
15 meetings to assess the educational needs of the community and  
16 the possibility for research initiatives in the area; and  
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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at  
19 Hilo is requested to submit a report of its findings and  
20 recommendations, including any proposed legislation relating to  
21 the establishment of a learning center in lower Puna, to the  
22 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
23 the Regular Session of 2012; and  
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chancellor of the  
27 University of Hawaii at Hilo.  
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29  
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OFFERED BY:

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