

MAR 11 2011

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING SUPPORT OF STATE FUNDING FOR NA PUA NO'EAU STAFFING AND
PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, Na Pua No'eu Center for Gifted and Talented Native
2 Hawaiian Children was established in 1989 at the University of
3 Hawai'i at Hilo for the purpose of increasing educational
4 enrichment opportunities for Hawaiian children in grades K-12
5 throughout the State of Hawai'i; and
6

7 WHEREAS, between 1993 and 2001, Na Pua No'eu, through
8 funding by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, opened additional
9 centers to include the following sites: University of Hawai'i at
10 Manoa, Kaua'i Community College, Maui Community College, Moloka'i
11 Education Center, Lana'i High and Elementary School, and the
12 University of Hawai'i Center - West Hawai'i; and
13

14 WHEREAS, Na Pua No'eu has served over 12,000 Hawaiian
15 students over the past twenty years as reflected in the Center's
16 database; and
17

18 WHEREAS, Na Pua No'eu provides Hawaiian students in grades
19 K-12 a seamless transition from high school to college; and
20

21 WHEREAS, Na Pua No'eu alumni represent over eleven percent
22 of the Hawaiian students enrolled at University of Hawai'i
23 campuses; and
24

25 WHEREAS, graduates from the program are represented in
26 occupations that include medicine, law, education, government,
27 politics, and community leadership, many of whom attribute their
28 success to their experiences through Nā Pua No'eu; and
29

30 WHEREAS, while the teaching and learning design of Na Pua
31 No'eu creates a greater capacity of Hawaiian students to access



1 and succeed in higher education, it also preserves, sustains,
2 and mobilizes Hawaiian knowledge and practices; and
3

4 WHEREAS, Na Pua No'eau creates optimal learning conditions
5 for Native Hawaiian students in grades K-12 for higher
6 achievement and aspirations; and
7

8 WHEREAS, these optimal learning conditions are designed in
9 the context of Hawaiian history, language, culture, values, and
10 perspective; and
11

12 WHEREAS, the Na Pua No'eau Center for Gifted and Talented
13 Native Hawaiian Children has staff and offices at University of
14 Hawai'i campuses throughout the State, and is able to reach out
15 to all of the Hawaiian communities; and
16

17 WHEREAS, in twenty years, Na Pua No'eau has developed
18 research studies that ascertain the effectiveness of its
19 practices and the longitudinal tracking of the student
20 participants; and
21

22 WHEREAS, the current data show that Hawaiian students who
23 participate in Na Pua No'eau programs have a better chance of
24 staying in and graduating from the University of Hawai'i; and
25

26 WHEREAS, because Na Pua No'eau is dependent on external and
27 temporary funding, the Center's ability to conduct programs for
28 Hawaiian students fluctuates from year to year; and
29

30 WHEREAS, the funding requested in the University of Hawai'i
31 System's biennium budget for Na Pua No'eau would allow the Center
32 to serve 4,000 K-12 Hawaiian students annually; and
33

34 WHEREAS, state funding requested would expand the Na Pua
35 No'eau staff and offices on all of the University of Hawai'i
36 campuses, thus broadening and increasing the sustainability of
37 the K-12 program offerings to Hawaiian students, families, and
38 their communities; and
39

40 WHEREAS, with the receipt of these requested funds, Na Pua
41 No'eau will have greater capacity to sustain education and career
42 pathways for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and
43 Mathematics), health related professions, and leadership



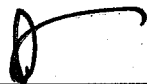
1 opportunities, which will result in a greater representation of
2 Hawaiians in professional careers; and
3

4 WHEREAS, state funding for Na Pua No'eau has the strong
5 support of the University of Hawai'i System Puko'a Council of
6 Native Hawaiian faculty and staff; now, therefore,
7

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, the
10 House of Representatives concurring, that support is urged for
11 state funding of Na Pua No'eau staffing and programs in the
12 University of Hawai'i System biennium budget; and
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
16 University of Hawai'i System, Chair of the Board of Trustees of
17 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and Na Pua No'eau.
18
19
20

OFFERED BY: _____


Poha'i Kapa
Melane Kapa
Michelle Kapa

