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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF FORMING A UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO MEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM.

WHEREAS, volleyball is one of the most popular sports in the State; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Hilo women's volleyball team is a source of pride to the Hilo community, winning the Pacific West Conference Championships in the 2010, 2009, and 2007 seasons; and

WHEREAS, individual members of the University of Hawaii at Hilo women's volleyball program have been recognized as national player of the year, conference player of the year, members of the conference first-team, and conference coach of the year; and

WHEREAS, six men's and seven women's athletic teams represent the University of Hawaii at Hilo at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II level; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Hilo is not represented by a men's volleyball team; and

WHEREAS, local schools have produced outstanding volleyball players who may not have the athletic attributes to play at the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I level but who could certainly develop and thrive at the Division II level; and

WHEREAS, local male volleyball players who might not be able to secure an athletic scholarship at the University of Hawaii at Hilo even if a volleyball program is established would still be more likely to enroll in college if the prospect of walking on to the volleyball team was available; and

WHEREAS, every year that passes without a men's volleyball program at the University of Hawaii at Hilo denies some of these young men an opportunity to pursue not just athletic, but concomitant educational opportunities and development; and

WHEREAS, a University of Hawaii at Hilo men's volleyball team has the potential to be a source of pride for the University of Hawaii at Hilo, the Hilo community, and the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii at Hilo Director of Intercollegiate Athletics is requested to establish a University of Hawaii at Hilo men's volleyball task force to study the feasibility of establishing a University of Hawaii at Hilo men's volleyball team; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics is requested to invite the initial members of the task force to participate, including at least one member from each of the following:

(1) The Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo or the Chancellor's designee;

(2) The Director of the County of Hawaii Department of Research and Development or the Director's designee;

(3) One volleyball community advocate to be appointed by the Chair of the House of Representatives Committee on Higher Education;

(4) One volleyball community advocate to be appointed by the Chair of the Senate Committee on Education; and

(5) One member of the travel industry to be invited by the Director of Intercollegiate Athletics; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the task force are requested to serve without compensation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii at Hilo men's volleyball task force is requested to submit a report

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of its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force cease to exist on June 30, 2014; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo, the University of Hawaii at Hilo Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, and the Director of the County of Hawaii Department of Research and Development.

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OFFERED BY:

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