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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE HAWAII PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION TO DEVELOP DRAFT LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS IN HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, the profession of psychology provides critically  
2 needed services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a  
3 broad spectrum of clients; and

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5           WHEREAS, it is vitally important that psychologists provide  
6 the best possible service to their clients; and

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8           WHEREAS, continuing education is essential to help  
9 psychologists maintain their professional competency and keep  
10 abreast of the latest developments in their profession; and

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12           WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of only six states that do not  
13 require continuing education credits as part of their licensing  
14 law for psychologists; and

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16           WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association is a  
17 membership organization that represents approximately 84,000  
18 psychologists across the nation, and the Hawaii chapter  
19 represents about three hundred psychologists across the State;  
20 and

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22           WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is  
23 charged with protecting consumers through its regulatory and  
24 licensing responsibilities; and

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26           WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
27 and Hawaii Psychological Association are currently working  
28 together on specific provisions to be included in a bill to  
29 establish continuing education requirements for licensed  
30 psychologists; and

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32           WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
33 and Hawaii Psychological Association have also identified issues



1 relevant to the requirement for continuing education for  
2 licensed psychologists, such as:

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- 4 (1) Ensuring that such requirements do not impose an undue  
5 burden on psychologists in rural areas of Hawaii;
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  - 7 (2) Using an established, widely recognized non-  
8 governmental entity to approve continuing education  
9 credits; and
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  - 11 (3) Ensuring that the program to implement and monitor  
12 continuing education credits for licensed  
13 psychologists is cost-neutral to the State; and  
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15 WHEREAS, there are currently opportunities offered by  
16 approved providers for continuing education statewide, including  
17 in rural areas, such as in-person courses, webinars, and  
18 teleconferences; and  
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20 WHEREAS, continuing education opportunities should be made  
21 available to members and non-members of the Hawaii Psychological  
22 Association; and  
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24 WHEREAS, the joint effort of the Department of Commerce and  
25 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association is  
26 critical in increasing and maintaining the professional  
27 competence of licensed psychologists in Hawaii through a  
28 continuing education program; now, therefore,  
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
31 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
32 Session of 2013, that the Department of Commerce and Consumer  
33 Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association are urged to  
34 continue collaborating on the issue of developing, implementing,  
35 and monitoring continuing education requirements for all  
36 licensed psychologists in Hawaii; and  
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38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days prior  
39 to the Regular Session of 2014, the Department of Commerce and  
40 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association are  
41 requested to submit to the Legislature a proposed draft for a  
42 bill to establish, implement, and monitor continuing education  
43 requirements for all licensed psychologists in Hawaii; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and  
3 Consumer Affairs and President of the Hawaii Psychological  
4 Association.  
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OFFERED BY:

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MAR 13 2013

