
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO
STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF SEPARATING THE UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAII SYSTEM AMONG THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA, THE
COMMUNITY COLLEGES, AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII-WEST OAHU
AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO.

1 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii system is governed by a
2 single board of regents and consists of the University of Hawaii
3 at Manoa, the community colleges, the University of Hawaii-West
4 Oahu, and the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and

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6 WHEREAS, under Article X, section 6, of the state
7 constitution, the Legislature finds that it is a matter of
8 statewide concern whether the University of Hawaii system should
9 be separated into three systems among the University of Hawaii
10 at Manoa, the community colleges, and the University of Hawaii-
11 West Oahu and the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and

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13 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii at Manoa was founded in
14 1907 and is the flagship campus of the University of Hawaii
15 system, and as a destination of choice, students and faculty
16 come from across the nation and the world to take advantage of
17 the University of Hawaii at Manoa's unique research
18 opportunities, diverse community, and nationally-ranked Division
19 I athletics program; and

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21 WHEREAS, as one of only thirty-two institutions nationwide
22 to hold the distinction of being a land-grant, sea-grant, and
23 space-grant research institution, the University of Hawaii at
24 Manoa is ranked in the top thirty public universities in federal
25 research funding for engineering and science, and forty-ninth
26 overall by the National Science Foundation; and

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28 WHEREAS, classified by the Carnegie Foundation as having
29 "very high research activity," the University of Hawaii at Manoa



1 is known for its pioneering research in such fields as
2 oceanography, astronomy, Pacific Islands and Asian area studies,
3 linguistics, cancer research, and genetics; and
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5 WHEREAS, the goals and missions of the University of Hawaii
6 at Manoa, as a research university, are different from the
7 community colleges, the University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and the
8 University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
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10 WHEREAS, in contrast, the community colleges provide open-
11 door access to affordable, high-quality education through a
12 variety of programs from career and technical education to a
13 liberal arts education; and
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15 WHEREAS, the community colleges are already a "system
16 within a system," consisting of seven colleges, including Hawaii
17 Community College, Honolulu Community College, Kapiolani
18 Community College, Kauai Community College, Leeward Community
19 College, Maui College, and Windward Community College; and
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21 WHEREAS, the community colleges also include educational
22 centers serving Oahu, Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai;
23 and
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25 WHEREAS, the goals and mission of the community college
26 system are different from the University of Hawaii-West Oahu,
27 the University of Hawaii at Hilo, and the University of Hawaii
28 at Manoa; and
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30 WHEREAS, separation of the University of Hawaii at Manoa
31 and the community colleges would lead to greater efficiency and
32 better management of the university system overall; and
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34 WHEREAS, such a separation could ultimately require the
35 establishment of three separate university systems, each with
36 its own boards of regents, specifically, one for the University
37 of Hawaii at Manoa, one for the community colleges, and one for
38 the University of Hawaii-West Oahu and the University of Hawaii
39 at Hilo; and
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41 WHEREAS, it is envisioned that the University of Hawaii at
42 Manoa, as the State's only research university, will be
43 financially self-sustaining and receive limited state funding;
44 and



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 2 WHEREAS, it is likewise envisioned that the community
 3 colleges, the University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and the University
 4 of Hawaii at Hilo, as the State's teaching institutions, will
 5 continue to be financially supported by state funds; now,
 6 therefore,

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 8 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 9 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 10 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Board of
 11 Regents of the University of Hawaii is requested to study the
 12 feasibility of separating the University of Hawaii system among
 13 the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the community colleges, and
 14 the University of Hawaii-West Oahu and the University of Hawaii
 15 at Hilo; and

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 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents is
 18 strongly encouraged to retain the services of an independent
 19 educational expert to conduct the study; and

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 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents is
 22 requested to submit a report of its findings and
 23 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 24 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 25 the Regular Session of 2015; and

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 27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of the Board
 29 of Regents of the University of Hawaii, the President of the
 30 University of Hawaii, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii
 31 at Manoa, the Vice President for Community Colleges, the
 32 Chancellor of the University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and the
 33 Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Hilo.

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 36 OFFERED BY: *Samuel Hironaka*

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