
HOUSE 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
30 is known for its pioneering research in such fields as
31 oceanography, astronomy, Pacific Islands and Asian area studies,
32 linguistics, cancer research, and genetics; and



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2 WHEREAS, the goals and missions of the University of Hawaii
3 at Manoa, as a research university, are different from the
4 community colleges, the University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and the
5 University of Hawaii at Hilo; and

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7 WHEREAS, in contrast, the community colleges provide open-
8 door access to affordable, high-quality education through a
9 variety of programs from career and technical education to a
10 liberal arts education; and

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12 WHEREAS, the community colleges are already a "system
13 within a system," consisting of seven colleges, including Hawaii
14 Community College, Honolulu Community College, Kapiolani
15 Community College, Kauai Community College, Leeward Community
16 College, Maui College, and Windward Community College; and

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18 WHEREAS, the community colleges also include educational
19 centers serving Oahu, Hawaii, Kauai, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai;
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, the goals and mission of the community college
23 system are different from the University of Hawaii-West Oahu,
24 the University of Hawaii at Hilo, and the University of Hawaii
25 at Manoa; and

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27 WHEREAS, separation of the University of Hawaii at Manoa
28 and the community colleges would lead to greater efficiency and
29 better management of the university system overall; and

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31 WHEREAS, such a separation could ultimately require the
32 establishment of three separate university systems, each with
33 its own boards of regents, specifically, one for the University
34 of Hawaii at Manoa, one for the community colleges, and one for
35 the University of Hawaii-West Oahu and the University of Hawaii
36 at Hilo; and

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38 WHEREAS, it is envisioned that the University of Hawaii at
39 Manoa, as the State's only research university, will be
40 financially self-sustaining and receive limited state funding;
41 and

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43 WHEREAS, it is likewise envisioned that the community
44 colleges, the University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and the University



1 of Hawaii at Hilo, as the State's teaching institutions, will
2 continue to be financially supported by state funds; now,
3 therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
7 Session of 2014, that the Board of Regents of the University of
8 Hawaii is requested to study the feasibility of separating the
9 University of Hawaii system among the University of Hawaii at
10 Manoa, the community colleges, and the University of Hawaii-West
11 Oahu and the University of Hawaii at Hilo; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents is
14 strongly encouraged to retain the services of an independent
15 educational expert to conduct the study; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents is
18 requested to submit a report of its findings and
19 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
20 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of
21 the Regular Session of 2015; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the members of the Board of Regents
25 of the University of Hawaii, the President of the University of
26 Hawaii, the Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the
27 Vice President for Community Colleges, the Chancellor of the
28 University of Hawaii-West Oahu, and the Chancellor of the
29 University of Hawaii at Hilo.
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OFFERED BY: *James A. ...*

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