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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PEACE CORPS PREP PROGRAM AT  
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA.

1           WHEREAS, the Peace Corps is a volunteer program run by the  
2 United States government with the stated mission of providing  
3 technical assistance to interested countries and advancing  
4 cross-cultural understanding between Americans and the people of  
5 nations in which they serve; and  
6

7           WHEREAS, since its establishment in 1961, Peace Corps has  
8 sent over two hundred thousand volunteers to over one hundred  
9 thirty-nine countries, including one thousand four hundred  
10 volunteers from Hawaii, and with over twenty-five persons from  
11 Hawaii currently serving; and  
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13           WHEREAS, in 2007, Peace Corps established the Peace Corps  
14 Prep program with the goals of fostering stronger partnerships  
15 with undergraduate institutions and developing a pipeline of  
16 diverse, highly qualified Peace Corps applicants; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the Peace Corps Prep program uses existing  
19 curriculum to prepare students for international development  
20 fieldwork and potential Peace Corps service, while meeting four  
21 interdisciplinary learning objectives that serve this end, and  
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23           WHEREAS, students who successfully complete the Peace Corps  
24 Prep program receive an official certificate of completion from  
25 the Peace Corps, which provides a competitive edge should they  
26 choose to apply to be a Peace Corps volunteer after graduation;  
27 and  
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29           WHEREAS, the Peace Corps Prep program allows each partner  
30 university to create a path by which their students may meet  
31 these objectives through the existing curriculum and at little  
32 cost to the participating university; and



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 2 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii has a rich legacy of  
 3 instilling its students with international and culturally based  
 4 perspectives and a strong commitment to service; and  
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6 WHEREAS, many students at the University of Hawaii receive  
 7 undergraduate degrees in fields that are critical needs areas  
 8 for Peace Corps service, such as public health, biology,  
 9 education, social work, agriculture, family resources, and  
 10 business; and  
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12 WHEREAS, students from the University of Hawaii should be  
 13 encouraged to take advantage of Peace Corps as a stepping stone  
 14 towards their career; and  
 15

16 WHEREAS, a Peace Corps Prep program at the University of  
 17 Hawaii, in partnership with the Spark M. Matsunaga Institute for  
 18 Peace and Conflict Resolution, would prepare students for  
 19 service in the Peace Corps by designing individualized course  
 20 plans that emphasizes sector-specific skills; foreign language  
 21 training; intercultural and diversity-based coursework;  
 22 leadership and professional training; and any other curricular  
 23 requirements for Peace Corps service; now, therefore  
 24

25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 26 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
 27 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the University of  
 28 Hawaii at Manoa, in partnership with the Spark M. Matsunaga  
 29 Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, is encouraged to  
 30 create a Peace Corps Prep program to prepare students for post-  
 31 graduate service opportunities with the United States Peace  
 32 Corps; and  
 33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chancellor of the  
 36 University of Hawaii at Manoa, the Director of the Spark M.  
 37 Matsunaga Institute for Peace and Conflict Resolution, and the  
 38 State Representative of the Peace Corps.  
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OFFERED BY:

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