

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EXAMINE THE CURRENT STATUS OF
THE UNIVERSITY'S ONLINE PROGRAMS WITH A VIEW TOWARD
INCREASING ITS ONLINE ACCREDITED COURSES AND DEGREE
PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, online courses and degree programs are
2 increasingly important to ensure access to education for many
3 students; and

4
5 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii offers only seventeen
6 Bachelor's degrees, fourteen Master degrees, and several
7 certificates via online courses; and

8
9 WHEREAS, the geography of Hawaii makes online and distance
10 education options especially valuable for out-of-state and
11 international students; and

12
13 WHEREAS, students on the neighbor islands are in particular
14 need of affordable, high quality distance education options; and

15
16 WHEREAS, the availability of online programs for students
17 residing on Oahu can have a positive impact on reducing traffic
18 congestion; and

19
20 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii is well situated to offer
21 unique and valuable perspectives to local and out-of-state
22 students in a variety of important subjects, including
23 oceanography, renewable energy, and climate change; and

24
25 WHEREAS, Penn State World Campus is the online campus of
26 Pennsylvania State University and offers online courses for over
27 one hundred twenty accredited graduate degrees, undergraduate
28 degrees, certificates, and minors; and

29
30 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii should increase its
31 online accredited programs; now, therefore,



S.C.R. NO. 175

1
2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
4 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of
5 Hawaii is urged to examine the current status of the
6 University's online programs with a view toward increasing its
7 online accredited courses and degree programs; and
8

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii
10 formulate a plan to increase cooperation among its campuses to
11 provide a greater number of online courses and program
12 offerings; and
13

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii
15 examine any existing resistance its faculty may have to its
16 online programs and provide solutions for those issues
17 accordingly; and
18

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii report
20 its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later
21 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
22 of 2018; and
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
26 Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii and President of
27 the University of Hawaii.
28
29
30

OFFERED BY:





