

MAR 10 2017

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# SENATE 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

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

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

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

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

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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

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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

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

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33           BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017,



1 that the University of Hawaii is urged to examine the current  
2 status of the University's online programs with a view toward  
3 increasing its online accredited courses and degree programs;  
4 and

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

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

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

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
23 Regents of the University of Hawaii and President of the  
24 University of Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY:







