

MAR 09 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO CONTINUE TO
OPERATE THE HAWAII NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH CHALLENGE ACADEMY
HILO CAMPUS.

1 WHEREAS, the mission of the National Guard youth challenge
2 program is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of sixteen to
3 eighteen year old "at promise" youth and produce program
4 graduates with the values, life skills, education, and self-
5 discipline necessary to succeed as productive citizens; and
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7 WHEREAS, the National Guard youth challenge program is a
8 community-based program that leads, trains, and mentors sixteen
9 to eighteen year old youth so that they may become productive
10 citizens in America's future; and
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12 WHEREAS, this award-winning program has been recognized as
13 one of the nation's most effective and cost efficient programs
14 for targeting youth who are at the greatest risk for substance
15 abuse, teen pregnancy, delinquency, and criminal activity; and
16

17 WHEREAS, the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge
18 Academy's endeavor is to provide the State of Hawaii with a
19 premier progressive alternative school for "at-promise" youth
20 that focuses on lessons in character, education, moral values,
21 life-coping skills, and responsible citizenship; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the twenty-two week residential phase is followed
24 by a year-long mentoring relationship with a specially trained
25 member from each youth's community; and
26

27 WHEREAS, the eight core components of the program are:
28 academy excellence, health and hygiene, job skills, leadership
29 and followership, life coping skills, service to the community,
30 physical fitness, and responsible citizenship; and
31

32 WHEREAS, seventy-eight percent of challenge graduates
33 receive their high school equivalency diploma; forty-eight
34 percent join the workforce; nineteen percent continue their
35 education; and six percent join the military; and



1
2 WHEREAS, program participants donate over nine thousand
3 hours of community service annually, valued at more than
4 \$175,000; and
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6 WHEREAS, the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy
7 has awarded more than three thousand eight hundred academic
8 credentials; and
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10 WHEREAS, the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge
11 Academy's Hilo Campus has been extremely successful in
12 dissuading at-risk youths from causing harm to others and
13 themselves; and
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15 WHEREAS, the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge
16 Academy's Hilo Campus is especially important, due to the
17 limited resources available to at-risk youths from east Hawaii
18 island; and
19

20 WHEREAS, the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge
21 Academy's Hilo Campus is tailored to those cadets from rural
22 areas of Hawaii island; and
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24 WHEREAS, due to budget constraints, the Hawaii Department
25 of Defense is expected to close the Hawaii National Guard Youth
26 Challenge Academy's Hilo Campus and eliminate forty-two
27 positions; and
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29 WHEREAS, the invaluable benefits associated with Hawaii
30 National Guard Youth Challenge Academy's Hilo Campus, affirm the
31 need for a cooperative effort to avoid its closure; now,
32 therefore,
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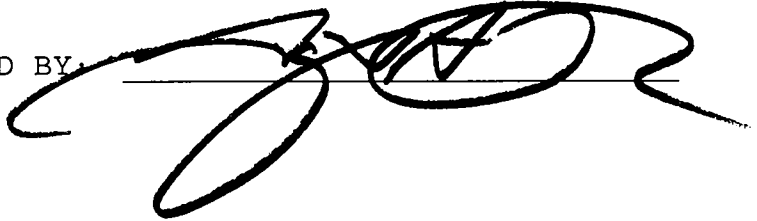
34 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
35 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
36 that the Hawaii State Department of Defense is urged to continue
37 to operate the Hawaii National Guard Youth Challenge Academy's
38 Hilo Campus; and
39
40



S.R. NO. 55

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Adjunct General,
3 Director of Public Safety, and Superintendent of Education.
4
5
6

OFFERED BY: _____

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and appears to be the name of the person offering the resolution.