SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO
DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE LIST OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS
AND OTHER INNOVATIVE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PATHWAYS THAT
DIRECTLY ALIGN WITH JOB OPPORTUNITIES AND INDUSTRY NEEDS
WITHIN THEIR RESPECTIVE REGION OF SERVICE.

WHEREAS, the State's economic vitality depends on a skilled workforce that meets the needs of key regional industries, including tourism and hospitality, agriculture, marine research, renewable energy, and health care; and

WHEREAS, each of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges plays a vital role in providing accessible, regionally-relevant higher education that supports local economic development; and

WHEREAS, aligning academic programs with current and emerging job opportunities in each region will benefit students, local employers, and the overall economic growth of the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the House of Representatives concurring, that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges are requested to develop a comprehensive list of bachelor's degree programs and other innovative workforce development pathways that directly align with job opportunities and industry needs within their respective region of service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in developing the list, the University of Hawaii Community Colleges are requested to:

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(1) Evaluate the regional economic drivers and their respective areas of strength and align programming accordingly; and

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(2) Consider current job needs and future workforce trends in its evaluation of its programs to allow for a more adaptable and forward-looking approach to curriculum development; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Community Colleges are requested to collaborate with local industry leaders and stakeholders to ensure these programs are designed in accordance with current labor market data, future workforce trends, and the specific economic needs of each region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the University of Hawaii and Vice President for Community Colleges of the University of Hawaii.