
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO
CHARGE RESIDENT TUITION TO PACIFIC ISLAND STUDENTS;
PROVIDED THE RATE IS OFFERED ON A NEEDS-BASED BASIS.

1 WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii
2 last year eliminated the non-resident tuition waiver for Pacific
3 Island students who are from Pacific Island jurisdictions that
4 have historical ties to the United States and do not have degree
5 granting public higher educational institutions that grant
6 baccalaureate degrees; and

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8 WHEREAS, students from these Pacific Islands must now pay
9 non-resident tuition rates equal to one hundred fifty per cent
10 of the resident tuition-rate; and

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12 WHEREAS, this tuition rate is less than that imposed on
13 non-residents from other jurisdictions throughout the United
14 States; and

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16 WHEREAS, the Pacific Island students who are now required
17 to pay the reduced non-resident tuition rate comprise a very
18 minute portion of the total tuition revenues of the University
19 of Hawaii; and

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21 WHEREAS, the tuition increase for this small group of
22 students has a disproportionately larger financial impact on
23 them as compared to students because the minimum wages of, and
24 the median household income of families in, those islands fall
25 far below the minimum wage and median household income of
26 families of their American counterparts in states that require
27 the payment of full non-resident tuition; and

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29 WHEREAS, a scheduled system-wide increase in tuition
30 coupled with the elimination of the tuition waivers have forced
31 some Pacific Island students to apply for student loans; and



1 WHEREAS, although the University of Hawaii instituted a
2 University of Hawaii Pacific Islander Scholarship Program, the
3 various campuses have the option of implementing such a program
4 by utilizing revenues from their tuition increases; now,
5 therefore,
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7 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
8 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, the
9 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Regents
10 of the University of Hawaii is respectfully requested to allow
11 students from Pacific Island jurisdictions that have historical
12 ties to the United States but do not have degree granting public
13 higher educational institutions that grant baccalaureate degrees
14 to pay resident tuition rates; provided that the tuition rate is
15 offered on a needs-based basis; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii Board
18 of Regents is requested to submit a report on this matter to the
19 Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the convening of
20 the Regular Session of 2008; and
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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
23 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chair of the Board
24 of Regents of the University of Hawaii and the President of the
25 University of Hawaii.
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