

MAR 08 2007

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY
STUDY ON HAVING A ROBOTICS EDUCATION COORDINATOR WITHIN THE
UNIVERSITY.

1 WHEREAS, it is desirable for the State to promote
2 technology within the State; and

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4 WHEREAS, robotics engineering is a desirable industry
5 within the State; and

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7 WHEREAS, robotics education provides a vehicle to engage
8 students in the meaningful application of science, technology,
9 engineering, and mathematics, while also helping and challenging
10 them to learn to design and develop original solutions for each
11 problem presented; and

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13 WHEREAS, a robotics-based educational curriculum has
14 numerous applications in a broad array of subject areas
15 including agriculture, alternative or renewable energy,
16 aquaculture, astronomy, biology, communications, computer
17 sciences, environmental studies, geography, geology, and
18 chemistry; and

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20 WHEREAS, six Hawaii high schools have been competing in and
21 have won regional and national recognition for the students'
22 work at the For Inspiration and Recognition of Technology
23 robotics tournaments held each spring at several regional and
24 national tournaments; and

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26 WHEREAS, twenty-three Hawaii middle and high schools
27 competed in March 2004 in the first Hawaii Botball Robotics
28 Tournament, which was one of twelve regional tournaments held
29 nationwide and was sponsored by the Hawaii Space Grant
30 Consortium, College of Engineering of the University of Hawaii,
31 Hawaii Convention Center, National Aeronautics and Space
32 Administration, Robotics, and Simulation Division, KISS
33 Institute for Practical Robotics, and Hawaiian Electric Company;
34 and



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WHEREAS, robotics education programs can catalyze student interest during elementary and secondary school and lead students to seek higher education to pursue a variety of technology and engineering careers; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2007, that the University of Hawaii is respectfully requested to report to the Legislature on the feasibility of having a paid robotics education coordinator within the University of Hawaii to coordinate robotics education among the University, Department of Education, private schools, and other agencies and organizations in the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the President and the Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, the Chairperson of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Education, and the President of the Hawaii Association of Independent Schools.

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