
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM TO IDENTIFY ITS MOST
IMPORTANT FOUNDATIONAL COURSES TO ENSURE THAT FOUNDATIONAL
COURSES ARE NOT ADVERSELY IMPACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAI'I SYSTEM'S CURRENT BUDGET REDUCTIONS DURING A PERIOD
OF INCREASED ENROLLMENT.

1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is facing a shortfall in the fiscal year
2 2009 budget, forcing the State to cut back on education, health
3 care, and law enforcement expenditures; and
4

5 WHEREAS, S.B. No. 747 has identified the University of
6 Hawai'i System as a key component in workforce development for a
7 diversified economy, in order to ensure that such budget
8 shortfalls become less likely in the future; and
9

10 WHEREAS, statewide economic downturns have historically led
11 to substantial increases in enrollment in the University of
12 Hawai'i System, with Fall 2008 enrollment up over five per cent
13 at a time when all ten campuses face substantial cuts in their
14 operating budgets; and
15

16 WHEREAS, a student's performance in certain foundational
17 courses would seem to be a predictor of that student's ability
18 to meet the State's current and future workforce needs; and
19

20 WHEREAS, budget cuts combined with increased enrollments
21 may adversely impact the quality of such foundational courses;
22 and
23

24 WHEREAS, even an apparently small dilution of the quality
25 of instruction in foundational courses may have long-term
26 impacts on the quality of the State's future workforce; now,
27 therefore,
28

29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of



1 Hawai'i System is urged to identify its most important
2 foundational courses; and
3

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawai'i System
5 is requested to ensure, in consultation with foundational course
6 faculty, relevant peer-reviewed research, and national "best
7 practice" standards, that foundational courses are not adversely
8 impacted by the University of Hawai'i System's current budget
9 reductions during a period of increased enrollment; and
10

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
13 University of Hawai'i System and the Co-Chairs of the All Campus
14 Council of Faculty Senate Chairs.
15
16
17

OFFERED BY:

Norman Sakamoto

