HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010 STATE OF HAWAII

H.R. NO. 9

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE CANCER RESEARCH CENTER OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii was 1 2 established by the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii 3 in 1981; and 4 5 WHEREAS, the mission of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is to reduce the burden of cancer through research, 6 7 education, and outreach, with an emphasis on the unique ethnic, cultural, and environmental characteristics of Hawaii and the 8 Pacific; and 9 10 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is a research 11 unit of the University of Hawaii at Manoa and currently 12 13 employees two hundred eighty people, of whom thirty-four are core faculty; and 14 15 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii currently 16 conducts more than one hundred research projects in four 17 programs: epidemiology, with a focus on nutrition, 18 biostatistics, and genetics; natural products, which includes 19 20 chemistry, cell/molecular biology, botany, biochemistry, 21 immunology, and pharmacology; prevention and control, which focuses on clinical aspects of cancer and the reduction of 22 incidence through interventions; and carcinogenesis, which 23 24 examines how environmental and chemical carcinogens, viruses, 25 and genetics interact; and 26 WHEREAS, it is estimated that 1,300,000 people in the 27 United States will be diagnosed with cancer this year and in 28 29 Hawaii, approximately five thousand men and women are diagnosed with the disease each year; and 30 31 32 WHEREAS, in November 2009, the University of Hawaii at Manoa announced plans to build a new cancer research facility in 33 Kakaako, with construction expected to begin in 2010; and 34 35



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1 WHEREAS, since 1996, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii has been a designated cancer center of the National Cancer 2 3 Institute and must meet strict standards to receive designation 4 and support; and 5 WHEREAS, the distinction of being a designated cancer 6 7 center of the National Cancer Institute recognizes a cancer center's scientific excellence and capability to integrate a 8 9 diversity of research approaches to focus on the problem of 10 cancer; and 11 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii is one of 12 only sixty-five National Cancer Institute designated centers in 13 the United States, and is the only designated cancer center in 14 Hawaii; and 15 16 WHEREAS, four years ago, the National Cancer Institute 17 recommended that the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii expand its 18 19 capacity to house more researchers and physicians; this 20 recommendation will be addressed with the construction of the new facility; and 21 22 23 WHEREAS, the unique and varied ethnic composition of the State presents researchers with opportunities to decrease the 24 burden of cancer in high-risk groups, and to develop novel 25 preventative and clinical strategies for the people of Hawaii; 26 27 and 28 WHEREAS, the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii will work in 29 30 consortium composed of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's John A. Burns School of Medicine, the Queen's Medical Center, Hawaii 31 Pacific Health, and other hospitals to offer patients the latest 32 cancer therapies and clinical trials that would not otherwise be 33 available; and 34 35 WHEREAS, a cutting edge research facility will help attract 36 and retain top tier researchers; foster synergy and innovation 37 38 between physicians, researchers, and students; and increase space and resource efficiencies, while bringing to the State 39 \$25,000,000 to \$30,000,000 in grant funding annually; and 40 41 42 WHEREAS, the unique geographical location of Hawaii makes it imperative for the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii to 43 44 maintain its National Cancer Institute designation, ensuring HR LRB 10-0692.doc



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that the residents of Hawaii have access to the most current therapeutic options and clinical trials close to home; now, therefore,

5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 6 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 7 of 2010, that this body expresses strong support for the Cancer 8 Research Center of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the National Cancer
Institute, the President of the University of Hawaii System, the
Chancellor of the University of Hawaii at Manoa, and the
Director of the Cancer Research Center of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

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