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HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE SCHOOL OF TRAVEL INDUSTRY MANAGEMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA TO DEVELOP ENHANCEMENTS FOR THE TOURISM-RELATED CAPABILITIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ECONOMIC RESEARCH ORGANIZATION DATA PORTAL.

WHEREAS, tourism continues to be one of the largest and most significant sectors of Hawaii's economy; and

WHEREAS, the travel industry, a vital component of the tourism sector, is highly price-sensitive and subject to both domestic and international economic performance; and

WHEREAS, the sometimes volatile nature of the travel industry and tourism as a whole requires that professionals in these industries have a clear understanding of market data and trends and how to use such data and trends in short- and long-term business planning and management; and

WHEREAS, the School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa has an international reputation of producing hospitality, tourism, and travel management professionals equipped to take on the challenges of Hawaii's tourism sector; and

WHEREAS, the knowledge and expertise of faculty within the School of Travel Industry Management means that the School is ideally suited to provide additional market analysis tools to assist industry professionals in making business decisions; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization Data Portal's menu-driven interface and wide array of economic and social indicators represents an ideal platform for travel industry professionals to access relevant data to aid in such short- and long-term business planning and decision-making; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa is requested to develop enhancements for the tourism-related capabilities of the University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization Data Portal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that these enhancements include:

(1) A broad cross-section of relevant variables, including visitor origin data based on established major markets, to provide a complete picture of the various aspects of the travel industry;

(2) The development of additional analytical capabilities for tourism-related data;

(3) Additional graphical display options for available data analyses;

(4) The capability to display visitor data trends at both the State and county levels;

(5) The presentation of micro-level trends; and

(6) The inclusion of data on visitor attendance at major attractions, including National Park sites;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School of Travel Industry Management develop an online tutorial and provide regular inperson training seminars to visitor industry professionals on how to use the Data Portal to assist in decision-making; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School of Travel Industry Management submit a report on the progress of this project to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the 2012 Regular Session; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the School of Travel Industry Management and Executive Director of the Economic Research Organization of the University of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 1 6 2011