HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE HAWAII VIRTUAL LEARNING NETWORK TO OFFER MORE
ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES OR GIVE PRIORITY FOR ENROLLMENT
TO STUDENTS FROM SMALL OR RURAL HIGH SCHOOLS FOR THOSE
ADVANCED PLACEMENT CLASSES ALREADY OFFERED BY THE NETWORK.

WHEREAS, the advanced placement program provides accredited college level courses and examinations to high school students in many high schools across the nation, including Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, advanced placement classes allow high school students to gain college credit, advanced placement in college, and better prepare for college by developing the skills necessary for success in college while still in high school; and

WHEREAS, currently not all Hawaii high schools offer advanced placement classes due to budget constraints; and

WHEREAS, many high schools, often in rural areas, with smaller student populations do not have the critical population numbers to justify the cost of offering advanced placement classes and students at those schools are at a distinct educational disadvantage; and

WHEREAS, through the Hawaii Virtual Learning Network, the State has recently begun providing various courses including advanced placement classes to high school students using online "distance learning" technology; and

WHEREAS, in the 2009 academic year, all of the 14 advanced placement classes offered were filled to capacity; and

WHEREAS, high school students at schools too small to offer advanced placement classes are currently forced to compete with students from schools across the State, even those that offer advanced placement classes, for the limited number of Hawaii Virtual Learning Network advanced placement class spaces; and

H.R. NO. 59

WHEREAS, this competitive enrollment system unfairly displaces eligible high school students from small or rural schools from Hawaii Virtual Learning Network advanced placement courses and does not alleviate the unequal availability of advanced placement courses in Hawaii high schools; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Hawaii Virtual Learning Network is urged to:

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Offer more advanced placement classes; or (1)

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(2) Give priority for enrollment to students from small or rural high schools for those advanced placement courses already being offered;

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and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Office of the Hawaii Virtual Learning Network, the Governor, the Superintendent of Education, the President of the University of Hawaii, and the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of Myron B. Thompson Academy.

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OFFERED BY:

FEB 2 2 2011

HR HMS 2011-1017