
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND THE
HAWAII PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION TO DEVELOP DRAFT
LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING, IMPLEMENTING, AND MONITORING
CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL LICENSED
PSYCHOLOGISTS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, the profession of psychology provides critically
2 needed services in prevention, intervention, and treatment to a
3 broad spectrum of clients; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is vitally important that psychologists provide
6 the best possible service to their clients; and
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8 WHEREAS, continuing education is essential to help
9 psychologists maintain their professional competency and keep
10 abreast of the latest developments in their profession; and
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12 WHEREAS, Hawaii is one of only six states that do not
13 require continuing education credits as part of their licensing
14 law for psychologists; and
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16 WHEREAS, the American Psychological Association is a
17 membership organization that represents approximately 84,000
18 psychologists across the nation, and the Hawaii chapter
19 represents about 300 psychologists across the State; and
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21 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is
22 charged with protecting consumers through its regulatory and
23 licensing responsibilities; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Board of Psychology recommends that the Hawaii
26 Psychological Association complete the Department of Commerce
27 and Consumer Affairs Professional and Vocational Licensing
28 Division's Continuing Professional Education Guidelines
29 Checklist; and
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31 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
32 and Hawaii Psychological Association are currently working
33 together on specific provisions to be included in a bill to



1 establish continuing education requirements for licensed
2 psychologists; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
5 and Hawaii Psychological Association have also identified issues
6 relevant to the requirements for continuing education for
7 licensed psychologists, such as:

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9 (1) Ensuring that such requirements do not impose an undue
10 burden on psychologists in rural areas of Hawaii;
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12 (2) Using an established, widely recognized non-
13 governmental entity to approve continuing education
14 credits; and
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16 (3) Ensuring that the program to implement and monitor
17 continuing education credits for licensed
18 psychologists is cost-neutral to the State; and
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20 WHEREAS, there are currently opportunities offered by
21 approved providers for continuing education statewide, including
22 in rural areas, such as in-person courses, webinars, and
23 teleconferences; and
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25 WHEREAS, continuing education opportunities should be made
26 available to members and non-members of the Hawaii Psychological
27 Association; and
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29 WHEREAS, the joint effort of the Department of Commerce and
30 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association is
31 critical in increasing and maintaining the professional
32 competence of licensed psychologists in Hawaii through a
33 continuing education program; now, therefore,
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35 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
36 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
37 Session of 2013, that the Department of Commerce and Consumer
38 Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association are urged to
39 continue collaborating on the issue of developing, implementing,
40 and monitoring continuing education requirements for all
41 licensed psychologists in Hawaii; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Psychological
2 Association is urged to complete the Department of Commerce and
3 Consumer Affairs Professional and Vocational Licensing
4 Division's Continuing Professional Education Guidelines
5 Checklist; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than 20 days prior to
8 the convening of the Regular Session of 2014, the Department of
9 Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological
10 Association are requested to submit to the Legislature a
11 proposed draft for a bill to establish, implement, and monitor
12 continuing education requirements for all licensed psychologists
13 in Hawaii; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
17 Consumer Affairs and President of the Hawaii Psychological
18 Association.

