
SENATE 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

4
5 WHEREAS, it is vitally important that psychologists provide
6 the best possible service to their clients; and

7
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

11
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

15
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 three hundred psychologists across the State;
20 and

21
22 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is
23 charged with protecting consumers through its regulatory and
24 licensing responsibilities; and

25
26 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
27 and Hawaii Psychological Association are currently working
28 together on specific provisions to be included in a bill to
29 establish continuing education requirements for licensed
30 psychologists; and

31
32 WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs
33 and Hawaii Psychological Association have also identified issues



1 relevant to the requirement for continuing education for
2 licensed psychologists, such as:

- 3
- 4 (1) Ensuring that such requirements do not impose an undue
5 burden on psychologists in rural areas of Hawaii;
6
- 7 (2) Using an established, widely recognized non-
8 governmental entity to approve continuing education
9 credits; and
10
- 11 (3) Ensuring that the program to implement and monitor
12 continuing education credits for licensed
13 psychologists is cost-neutral to the State; and
14

15 WHEREAS, there are currently opportunities offered by
16 approved providers for continuing education statewide, including
17 in rural areas, such as in-person courses, webinars, and
18 teleconferences; and
19

20 WHEREAS, continuing education opportunities should be made
21 available to members and non-members of the Hawaii Psychological
22 Association; and
23

24 WHEREAS, the joint effort of the Department of Commerce and
25 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association is
26 critical in increasing and maintaining the professional
27 competence of licensed psychologists in Hawaii through a
28 continuing education program; now, therefore,
29

30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,
32 that the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaii
33 Psychological Association are urged to continue collaborating on
34 the issue of developing, implementing, and monitoring continuing
35 education requirements for all licensed psychologists in Hawaii;
36 and
37

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and
39 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association are urged
40 to use the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division's
41 Continuing Professional Education Guidelines Checklist as the
42 framework for collaboration and discussion on continuing
43 education requirements for licensed psychologists in Hawaii; and
44



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that no later than twenty days prior
2 to the Regular Session of 2014, the Department of Commerce and
3 Consumer Affairs and Hawaii Psychological Association are
4 requested to submit to the Legislature a proposed draft for a
5 bill to establish, implement, and monitor continuing education
6 requirements for all licensed psychologists in Hawaii; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
9 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
10 Consumer Affairs and President of the Hawaii Psychological
11 Association.
12

