S.C.R. NO.38

FEB 1 2 2014

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII NOT TO RAISE STUDENT FEES TO BALANCE THE BUDGET OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII ATHLETICS DEPARTMENT OR BUDGET DEFICIT OF ANY OTHER DEPARTMENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii Athletics Department is facing a potential budget deficit of \$2,000,000, partly as a result of a shortfall in projected football ticket revenues and its inability to generate sufficient monies through fundraising; and

WHEREAS, many people in the State have shown discontent and dissatisfaction with the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii and President of the University of Hawaii System based on the perception of a lack of leadership and transparency in recent times; and

WHEREAS, this discontent and dissatisfaction has led some longtime financial supporters of the University of Hawaii to publicly state that they are no longer willing to provide financial support to the University of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, University of Hawaii officials have publicly stated that the University may raise student fees in order to offset the Athletics Department's deficit; and

WHEREAS, University of Hawaii students already pay a mandatory \$50 fee per semester that contributes \$1,400,000 a year to the University of Hawaii Athletics Department; and

WHEREAS, students should not be asked to shoulder the burden of making up for the budget deficit of the Athletics Department or budget deficit of any other department at the University of Hawaii; and

 WHEREAS, if student fees are raised, the amount should be based on an objective criteria or an appropriate formula, rather than an apparently arbitrary amount decided by the University of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, this body finds that if the University of Hawaii raises student fees to balance the budget of the University of Hawaii's Athletics Department or budget deficit of any other University of Hawaii department, once those budgets are balanced, the student fees should be reduced accordingly; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii is urged not to raise student fees to balance the budget of the University of Hawaii's Athletics Department or budget deficit of any other University of Hawaii department; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii, President of the University of Hawaii System, and Chancellors of each campus of the University of Hawaii System.

OFFERED BY: Smu Merrodo Kin