## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A WORKING GROUP TO INVESTIGATE,
EVALUATE, AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING IMPLEMENTING A
COMMUNITY COLLEGE SPORTS LEAGUE.

WHEREAS, the State has a great interest in educating and retaining talented young persons; and

WHEREAS, the State has a proud and rich history of producing exceptional athletes capable of competing on the collegiate level; and

WHEREAS, many of these students would benefit from obtaining education at the community college level prior to attending a four-year university; and

WHEREAS, the State has a wide variety of community colleges where students receive specialized degrees and certificates focused on their interests and abilities; and

WHEREAS, obtaining education at community colleges prepare students for further education or to enter the workforce in areas in need of more professionals with specialized skills; and

WHEREAS, high school athletes may be more interested in attending college if they are able to continue participating in their gifted areas of athletics; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii would benefit from recruiting community college athletes with playing experience at a higher level compared to only high school athletes; and

WHEREAS, football and volleyball are the two of the most played sports in the State; and

WHEREAS, if each community college in the State implemented sports programs, there would be a sufficient number of teams to

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compete against each other at the community college athletic level; and

WHEREAS, community colleges would be able to recruit from the strong high school athletes who may not be able to immediately attend and compete at a four year university; and

WHEREAS, participating in athletics at the community college level while also receiving an education may encourage these students to further their educational or athletic pursuits on a higher level while preparing them to enter the working force in a specialized field; and

WHEREAS, focusing on football and volleyball as pilot program sports of a community college sports league would provide ample opportunities for high school athletes in the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, that the Lieutenant Governor, or the Lieutenant Governor's designee, is requested to serve as chair of the working group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group comprise the following individuals;

(1) A representative from Hawaii Community College;

(2) A representative from Honolulu Community College;

(3) A representative from Kapiolani Community College;

(4) A representative from Kauai Community College;

(5) A representative from Leeward Community College;

(6) A representative from Windward Community College;

(7) The Athletic Director of the University of Hawaii or the Athletic Director's designee; and

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(8) Two community members who play on the collegiate, semi-professional, or professional level; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to consider:

(1) Whether implementing a community college sports league is feasible;

(2) The costs and scholarships associated with implementing a community college sports league with the initial sports of football and volleyball; and

(3) How the league could be funded; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the working group are requested to serve without compensation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be dissolved on June 30, 2017; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Lieutenant Governor, Athletic Director at the University of Hawaii, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the Hawaii Community College, Dean of Student Services at the Honolulu Community College, Dean of Student Services at the Kapiolani Community College, Dean of Student Services at the Kauai Community College, Dean of Student Services at the Leeward Community College, and Dean of Student Services at the Windward Community College.

OFFERED BY:

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