

FEB 12 2016

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO DEVELOP A PLAN THAT
OUTLINES COORDINATION AMONG UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII CAMPUSES
IN INCREASING ONLINE COURSES.

1 WHEREAS, online courses and degree programs are
2 increasingly important to ensure access to education for many
3 students; and
4

5 WHEREAS, the geography of Hawaii makes online and distance
6 education options especially valuable in the State, both for
7 local and out-of-state students; and
8

9 WHEREAS, students on neighbor islands are in particular
10 need of affordable, high quality distance education options; and
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12 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii offers only two fully
13 online degree programs, in contrast to sixteen online degree
14 programs offered at comparable institutions; and
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16 WHEREAS, some universities offer significantly more online
17 degree programs, such as East Carolina University, which offers
18 over seventy-five online degree programs, and Penn State, which
19 offers over one hundred online degree programs; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii is well situated to offer
22 a unique and valuable perspective to local and out-of-state
23 students in a variety of important subject areas, including
24 oceanography, renewable energy, and climate change; and
25

26 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii has been a national
27 leader in providing distance education options to students in
28 the past; now, therefore,
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30 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
31 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016, the
32 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of



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Hawaii is requested to develop a plan that outlines cooperation amongst the University of Hawaii campuses in increasing online courses and degree programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to provide a report of its plan to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2017; and

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

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OFFERED BY:

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