

KATHY L. KAOHU
County Clerk



JAMES G.M. KRUEGER
Deputy County Clerk

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/county/clerk

November 12, 2020

DEPT. COMM. NO. 219

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Hawaii State House of Representative
Speaker
415 South Beretania Street
Room 431
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith is a certified copy of Resolution No. 20-157,
which was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii,
on November 10, 2020.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathy L. Kaohu".

KATHY L. KAOHU
County Clerk

/djj

Enclosure

Resolution

No. 20-157

URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII, UNIVERSITY
OF HAWAII BOARD OF REGENTS, AND
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY
COLLEGES TO SUPPORT THE RETENTION AND
EXPANSION OF THE ENGINEERING
TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS AT THE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII MAUI COLLEGE

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect the State and economy, and the University of Hawai'i ("UH") anticipates major budget deficits in the future; and

WHEREAS, according to a report by the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges ("UHCC") on organizational and resource planning dated October 12, 2020, UH estimates an imminent reduction of more than \$100 million in its Fiscal Year 2021 operating budget that began on July 1, 2020; and

WHEREAS, based on current economic projections, UH plans to respond to anticipated further budgetary challenges by having each unit within the UH system evaluate and discuss ideas for reorganization and reallocation of resources; and

WHEREAS, the UHCC Office of the Vice President held campus meetings with all community colleges and administrative offices in September 2020 that focused on current fiscal year reductions and future fiscal planning, and will continue to discuss the plan at the Board of Regents December 2020 meeting; and

WHEREAS, each campus chancellor led their budget and planning governance groups in discussions regarding possible cost savings, program and department consolidations, alignment of curriculum, operational centralization, and program eliminations; and

WHEREAS, the UHCC's organizational and resource plan contains discussions and considerations regarding the elimination of academic programs with low enrollment or little workforce benefit; and

Resolution No. 20-157

WHEREAS, the UHCC's plan identifies the Engineering Technology program at the University of Hawai'i Maui College ("UHMC") as an academic program for possible modifications, citing factors such as the program's small number of majors and graduates; small workforce need in the state; and current alignment with jobs that require an associate degree; and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Technology program offers a Bachelor of Applied Science ("BAS") degree, as well as a two-year Associate in Science degree (which is a pathway towards earning a BAS in 4 years); and

WHEREAS, the Engineering Technology program prepares students to work in industries like high performance computing centers for scientific and engineering applications; solar and wind energy production and distribution; system administration and operations across a variety of sectors; and

WHEREAS, according to a 2019 report by the American Society for Engineering Education ("ASEE"), the technology industry is one of the fastest growing industries in the world and requires highly skilled and trained individuals to meet the demands of the global workforce; and

WHEREAS, according to ASEE over the next decade, the number of jobs is predicted to increase by 5 percent within engineering occupations, by 2 percent within engineering technology occupations, and by 13 percent in the computing occupations; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates employment in computer and information technology occupations to grow 11 percent and to add about 531,200 new jobs by 2029; and

WHEREAS, based on the continued growth of the technology industry, the reduction or elimination of the Engineering Technology program at UHMC runs contrary to current trends and demands within the State and globally; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has driven many businesses around the world to enable remote workforces, with many of these changes becoming permanent and continuing to influence technology needs; and

WHEREAS, the remote work revolution would not be possible without modern engineering and communications technology, and many decision-makers increasingly view technology investments as essential for maintaining productivity levels and business continuity even when cutting back in other areas; and

WHEREAS, a July 2020 Hawaii Business Magazine article reported that growing number of technology entrepreneurs, engineers, project managers, and marketers are working remotely outside of technology hubs on the mainland and indefinitely normalizing the remote workforce in the industry; and

WHEREAS, with the high cost of living and infrastructure and fierce competition for employees, the technology industry is primed to continue developing a remote workforce and creating local networks of talented and trained workers; and

WHEREAS, an expanded UHMC Engineering Technology program will provide graduates with the skills and knowledge to pursue local and remote work opportunities and remain in Maui County and the State of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, by retaining and expanding the Engineering Technology program and other related programs at UHMC, Maui County can boost its economy by attracting companies offering high-wage and high-skilled jobs to our local workforce; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Maui:

1. That it urges the State of Hawai'i, University of Hawai'i Board of Regents, and University of Hawai'i Community Colleges to support the retention and expansion of the Engineering Technology program at the University of Hawai'i Maui College;
2. That it urges the State of Hawai'i, University of Hawai'i Board of Regents, and University of Hawai'i Community Colleges to consider expanding UHMC's Engineering Technology program and other related programs in high-growth engineering and computer technology, industries; and

Resolution No. 20-157

3. That certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Honorable David Y. Ige, Governor, State of Hawaii; Dr. David Lassner, President, University of Hawai'i; Dr. Lui Hokoana, Chancellor, University of Hawai'i Maui College; University of Hawai'i Board of Regents; the Honorable Scott Saiki, Speaker, Hawaii State House of Representatives; the Honorable Ron Kouchi, President, Hawaii State Senate; Maui County's delegation to the State Legislature; and the Honorable Michael P. Victorino, Mayor, County of Maui.

paf:wal:20-279b

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793

CERTIFICATION OF ADOPTION

It is HEREBY CERTIFIED that RESOLUTION NO. 20-157 was adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 10th day of November 2020, by the following vote:

MEMBERS	Alice L. LEE Chair	Keani N. W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ Vice-Chair	G. Riki HOKAMA	Natalie A. KAMA	Kelly T. KING	Michael J. MOLINA	Tamara A. N. PALTIN	Shane M. SINENCI	Yuki Lei K. SUGIMURA
ROLL CALL	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye



COUNTY CLERK