# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII RESIDENT TUITION FEE.

#### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that facilitating
- 2 postsecondary education and training for all interested high
- school graduates serves the State's interest and that this Act, 3
- 4 therefore, is a law of statewide concern. Postsecondary options
- 5 assist graduates by preparing them for jobs and career pathways
- that typically pay higher wages, which enable them to achieve 6
- their educational and career goals and afford the State's high 7
- 8 cost of living. Increased enrollment and completion of
- 9 postsecondary education and training will increase the State's
- 10 human capital.
- The legislature further finds that the University of Hawaii 11
- amended its administrative rules to streamline the enrollment 12
- process for all applicants for admission into the University of 13
- 14 Hawaii system; however, the existing statutory requirements
- 15 regarding residency for tuition purposes pose challenges for
- some local graduating high school seniors or recent graduates. 16
- 17 Specifically, some students experiencing homelessness have

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- 1 difficulty providing evidence of bona fide residency as required
- 2 by statute, and students who have complex family situations may
- 3 be incorrectly considered nonresidents. The legislature further
- 4 finds that recognizing local high school graduates as residents
- 5 to qualify for resident tuition fees would facilitate the
- 6 enrollment of these students at one of the University of
- 7 Hawaii's campuses.
- 8 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to simplify the
- 9 residency determination for the State's high school graduates to
- 10 enroll in postsecondary education and training at the University
- 11 of Hawaii by considering graduates of the State's high schools
- 12 to be residents for tuition purposes.
- 13 SECTION 2. Section 304A-402, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 14 amended to read as follows:
- "[+]\$304A-402[+] Residence for tuition purposes; basic
- 16 rule. The board of regents shall adopt the necessary rules
- 17 defining residence for tuition purposes herein; provided that
- 18 the basic rule shall be that a student shall qualify for the
- 19 resident tuition fee only if the following criteria are met:
- 20 (1) The adult student, or in the case of a minor student,
- the student's parents or guardians[, has]:

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| 1  | (A) <u>Has</u> or have been a bona fide resident o                | f this     |
|----|---|------------|
| 2  | State for at least twelve consecutive m                           | onths next |
| 3  | preceding the student's first day of of                           | ficially   |
| 4  | scheduled instruction for any semester or term in                 |            |
| 5  | which the student is enrolling at the particular                  |            |
| 6  | college or campus; and  |            |
| 7  | [ <del>(2)The adult or minor student has</del> ] (B) Has not been |            |
| 8  | claimed as a dependent for tax purposes                           | for at     |
| 9  | least twelve months next preceding the                            | student's  |
| 10 | first day of officially scheduled instruction for                 |            |
| 11 | any semester or term in which the student is                      |            |
| 12 | enrolling at the particular college or campus by                  |            |
| 13 | the student's parents or guardians who are                        |            |
| 14 | nonresidents of the State; provided <u>further</u> that           |            |
| 15 | this provision shall not apply in cases where the                 |            |
| 16 | parent claiming the student as a dependent is                     |            |
| 17 | entitled to do so under a child support order or                  |            |
| 18 | agreement issued or entered into in conjunction                   |            |
| 19 | with a divorce proceeding or legal separation                     |            |
| 20 | agreement and the other parent and the                            | student    |

| 1  |   | meet the criteria [set forth] described in           |  |
|----|---|--|--|
| 2  |   | [paragraph (1).] subparagraph (A); or                |  |
| 3  | <u>(2)</u> <u>G</u> 1                                   | caduated from high school in the State within ten    |  |
| 4  | Āέ  | ears preceding the student's first day of officially |  |
| 5  | scheduled instruction for any semester or term in       |  |  |
| 6  | which the student is enrolling at the particular        |  |  |
| 7  | college or campus; provided further that the adult of   |  |  |
| 8  | minor student shall enroll or is enrolled in an         |  |  |
| 9  | <u>ur</u>   | ndergraduate degree program."                        |  |
| 10 | SECTION   | 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed    |  |
| 11 | and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.    |  |  |
| 12 | SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000. |  |  |

### Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Residence for Tuition Purposes

### Description:

Requires the University of Hawaii to grant resident tuition fees for enrollment at any University of Hawaii campus to individuals who have graduated from a Hawaii high school and are enrolling in an undergraduate degree program, under certain conditions. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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