HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII COMMUNITY COLLEGES SUMMER TUITION PILOT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, financial insecurity affects a large number of community college students, many of whom struggle to afford the base tuition rate; and

WHEREAS, community colleges are more than a pathway to 4-year institutions, as they offer trade and technical certificates, such as nursing, cosmetology, culinary, and more; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1779 H.D. 2, Regular Session of 2024 (H.B. 1779), a measure attempting to remove a financial barrier to entry, establishes a three-year summer tuition pilot program to provide funding to the University of Hawaii Community Colleges to offset the costs aligning the resident tuition rates for the summer semester with the resident tuition rates for the spring and fall semesters at the community colleges; and

WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii Community Colleges have represented in their public testimony on House Bill No. 1779, that they are in the process of designing a pilot program that would provide the lower summer tuition rate in the summer to matriculated continuing students and entering high school students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that there is established a working group to evaluate the effectiveness of the University of Hawaii Community Colleges Summer Tuition Pilot Program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group be co-chaired by a member of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and a member of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the co-chairs of the Working Group invite any other appropriate person to join the membership of the Working Group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Working Group shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation to the legislature twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to assist the Working Group with finalizing the report; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the University of Hawaii; University of Hawaii Vice President for Community Colleges; and Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau.

OFFERED BY:

