HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EXPLORE THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING AN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH CENTER AND IDENTIFY THE REQUIREMENTS FOR RECEIVING FEDERAL FUNDING FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE RESEARCH.

WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a significant public health issue affecting millions of Americans, including many residents of Hawaii; and

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WHEREAS, National Institute on Aging-designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers serve as a national resource for research on the nature of Alzheimer's disease and related 8 dementias and the development of more effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis, care, and therapy; and

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WHEREAS, the National Institute on Aging provides substantial funding opportunities to designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Centers, which can significantly enhance research capabilities and resources; and

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WHEREAS, the establishment of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center in Hawaii would advance scientific research, improve diagnosis and treatment, and provide better care for those suffering from Alzheimer's disease; and

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WHEREAS, Hawaii has the largest share of Asian American and Pacific Islander populations in the United States, which presents a unique opportunity to conduct research on Alzheimer's disease that reflects genetic, cultural, and environmental factors distinct from those studied in mainland research centers; and

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WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii, as the State's premier institution of higher education, has the potential to spearhead and establish a National Institute on Aging-designated Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and contribute to global research efforts on Alzheimer's disease; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the Senate concurring, that the University of Hawaii is requested to explore the feasibility of establishing an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center and identify the requirements for receiving federal funding from the National Institute on Aging for Alzheimer's disease research; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in determining the feasibility of establishing an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center, the University of Hawaii is requested to:

(1) Investigate the University of Hawaii's current research capabilities, infrastructure, and expertise related to Alzheimer's disease; and

(2) Assess the potential benefits and impacts establishing an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center would have on the University of Hawaii, the State, and residents of Hawaii; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in identifying the requirements to receive federal funding from the National Institute on Aging, the University of Hawaii is requested to:

(1) Determine the criteria and guidelines for National Institute on Aging Alzheimer's Disease Research Center grants; and

(2) Outline the necessary steps and institutional commitments needed to meet these requirements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to develop a phased plan, including initial feasibility assessments, infrastructure development, faculty recruitment, and community engagement; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to develop an estimated timeline for each phase of the plan, beginning with the initial feasibility assessment and including potential grant applications and the establishment of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Center; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to submit a report to the Legislature on the feasibility assessment, funding requirements, and proposed timeline no later than December 31, 2025; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Director of Health, President of the University of Hawaii System, members of the University of Hawaii Board of Regents, Director of the University of Hawaii at Manoa Center on Aging, and Dean of the University of Hawaii at Manoa John A. Burns School of Medicine.

OFFERED BY:

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