HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EVALUATE AND EXPAND ITS CURRENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR STUDENTS.

WHEREAS, the mental health and well-being of students is essential to academic success and the overall campus climate; and

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WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii plays a critical role in fostering an environment where students can access comprehensive mental health support; and

WHEREAS, recent assessments and feedback indicate an increased demand for mental health services for students, highlighting the need for additional qualified mental health professionals on University of Hawaii campuses; and

WHEREAS, expanding the availability of mental health services, including counseling, crisis intervention, and preventive care, will contribute to improved academic performance, enhanced student retention, and a more supportive educational environment; and

WHEREAS, investing in additional mental health resources on University of Hawaii campuses aligns with the State's commitment to the well-being of its residents and will help in the development of a resilient future workforce; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, that the University of Hawaii is encouraged to evaluate and expand its current mental health services for students; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is encouraged to expand its existing mental health services by hiring additional mental health professionals and support staff

to ensure there are adequate resources to meet the growing needs of its student body; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is encouraged to consider enhancing the accessibility and scope of its mental health programs, including extending counseling hours, improving crisis response, and adopting proactive outreach initiatives to better support students in achieving academic and personal success; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii is requested to provide periodic updates to the Legislature on its efforts to expand mental health services, including the number of new enhancements made to support structures, to ensure accountability and continuous improvement; and

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

OFFERED BY:

