

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING THE REQUEST BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA
FACULTY SENATE FOR A COMMITMENT FROM UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII
LEADERS TO REMAIN STEADFAST IN VIGOROUSLY DEFENDING ANY AND
ALL STUDENTS, FACULTY, OR STAFF WHO MAY BE ATTACKED FOR
EXERCISING THEIR RIGHTS TO ACADEMIC FREEDOM AND FREE
SPEECH.

1 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii community has
2 historically played critical roles in moral leadership through
3 peaceful protests during controversial times: from opposing the
4 Vietnam War, opposing the naming of the Social Sciences building
5 after eugenicist Stanley Porteus, opposing South African
6 Apartheid, preventing kalo from being genetically altered and
7 patented, and protecting Mauna Kea; and
8

9 WHEREAS, the political and artistic expressions of these
10 past protests would all be in violation of the currently
11 proposed "Time, Place, and Manner" restrictions contained in the
12 University of Hawaii's revisions to its "Executive Policy 10.206
13 Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions on Expressive Activities";
14 and
15

16 WHEREAS, in 2024 and 2025, many universities began
17 implementing similarly restrictive "Time, Place and Manner"
18 policies, under which lecturers, graduate assistants, students,
19 and faculty from these same schools have since been reprimanded,
20 disciplined, or terminated for exercising their rights to
21 academic freedom and free speech; and
22

23 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii's proposed revised
24 policies would deter students, faculty, and staff from
25 exercising their rights to academic freedom and free speech and
26 create an unnecessarily antagonistic relationship between the



1 University of Hawaii administration and the broader university
2 community; and

3
4 WHEREAS, many students, faculty, and staff feel afraid and
5 vulnerable, and collective action makes the university community
6 more likely to exercise their rights to academic freedom and
7 free speech; and

8
9 WHEREAS, during a period in history in which civil rights,
10 civil liberties, and the freedom and autonomy of institutions of
11 higher education are under sustained attack, the University of
12 Hawaii should strengthen, not restrict, the rights to academic
13 freedom and free speech and should empower the community to
14 exercise those rights; now, therefore,

15
16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
18 House of Representatives concurring, that this body supports the
19 request by the University of Hawaii at Manoa Faculty Senate for
20 a commitment from University of Hawaii leaders to remain
21 steadfast in vigorously defending any and all students, faculty,
22 or staff who may be attacked for exercising their rights to
23 academic freedom and free speech; and

24
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the
26 University of Hawaii at Manoa Faculty Senate's Resolution to
27 Oppose Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions and Rectify Academic
28 Freedom Policy, which was adopted on February 18, 2026; and

29
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
32 Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii; President of the
33 University of Hawaii; and Administrative Officer of the Manoa
34 Faculty Senate of the University of Hawaii.

35
36
37 OFFERED BY: Karl Rhoads

