

MAR 16 2026

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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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  
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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  
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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  
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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  
27 University of Hawaii administration and the broader university  
28 community; and  
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1 WHEREAS, many students, faculty, and staff feel afraid and  
2 vulnerable, and collective action makes the university community  
3 more likely to exercise their rights to academic freedom and  
4 free speech; and  
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6 WHEREAS, during a period in history in which civil rights,  
7 civil liberties, and the freedom and autonomy of institutions of  
8 higher education are under sustained attack, the University of  
9 Hawaii should strengthen, not restrict, the rights to academic  
10 freedom and free speech and should empower the community to  
11 exercise those rights; now, therefore,  
12

13 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
14 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,  
15 that this body supports the request by the University of Hawaii  
16 at Manoa Faculty Senate for a commitment from University of  
17 Hawaii leaders to remain steadfast in vigorously defending any  
18 and all students, faculty, or staff who may be attacked for  
19 exercising their rights to academic freedom and free speech; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body supports the  
22 University of Hawaii at Manoa Faculty Senate's Resolution to  
23 Oppose Time, Place, and Manner Restrictions and Rectify Academic  
24 Freedom Policy, which was adopted on February 18, 2026; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
27 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
28 Regents of the University of Hawaii; President of the University  
29 of Hawaii; and Administrative Officer of the Manoa Faculty  
30 Senate of the University of Hawaii.  
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OFFERED BY: Karl Rhoads

