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SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING STATE AGENCIES AND THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW TO COLLABORATE TO DEVELOP EXTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES FOR LAW STUDENTS TO ASSIST IN THE COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW AND UPDATE OF THE HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES.

1 WHEREAS, the Hawaii Administrative Rules are adopted by
2 state agencies, including executive departments, offices,
3 boards, and commissions, to implement legislation and establish
4 operating procedures for the agency; and

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6 WHEREAS, Hawaii is the twenty-eighth most regulated state
7 in the country, with 108,741 restrictive regulations in the
8 Hawaii Administrative Rules as of 2023; and

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10 WHEREAS, state agencies often build upon existing
11 administrative rules over time, contributing to a proliferation
12 of regulations that cause inefficiencies, outdated policies, and
13 undue burdens on businesses and residents in the State; and

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15 WHEREAS, while administrative rules play a critical role in
16 the operation of state programs, research demonstrates that the
17 accumulation of outdated regulations slows economic growth,
18 increasing rates of poverty, unemployment, and inflation; and

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20 WHEREAS, it is therefore critical that the Hawaii
21 Administrative Rules be consistently reviewed and updated to
22 continue to serve the State's best interests; and

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24 WHEREAS, state agencies, however, have expressed to the
25 Legislature that the regular revision of the Hawaii
26 Administrative Rules would be overly burdensome under current
27 staffing, budgetary, and operational conditions; and

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29 WHEREAS, law students are optimally suited to alleviate
30 this burden by assisting state agencies in conducting a
31 comprehensive review and update of their administrative rules
32 through externship courses (also known as field placements) for



1 credits that can be counted towards experiential learning
2 required credits and special project credits; and

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4 WHEREAS, experiential learning courses enable law students
5 to acquire critical professional skills through opportunities to
6 practice in real-world or simulated settings under the
7 supervision of qualified professionals; and

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9 WHEREAS, recognizing the importance of practical experience
10 to professional success, the American Bar Association requires
11 law students to earn at least six experiential learning credits;
12 and

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14 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson
15 School of Law allows students to fulfill the experiential
16 learning requirement through simulation courses, clinical
17 courses, and externships; and

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19 WHEREAS, as state agencies require assistance with the
20 labor-intensive comprehensive review and update of their
21 administrative rules and the University of Hawaii William S.
22 Richardson School of Law seeks new externship opportunities for
23 its students, these entities are uniquely positioned to form a
24 mutually beneficial partnership; now, therefore,

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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026,
28 that the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson School of
29 Law and state agencies are urged to collaborate to develop
30 externship opportunities for law students to assist in the
31 comprehensive review and update of the Hawaii Administrative
32 Rules; and

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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and
35 Consumer Affairs is requested to be the first state agency to
36 collaborate with the University of Hawaii William S. Richardson
37 School of Law to develop externship opportunities for law
38 students pursuant to this Concurrent Resolution; and

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40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
41 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Commerce
42 and Consumer Affairs; Comptroller; Chairperson of the Board of



1 Agriculture and Biosecurity; Attorney General; Director of
2 Finance; Director of Business, Economic Development, and
3 Tourism; Adjutant General; Director of Corrections and
4 Rehabilitation; Chairperson of the Board of Education;
5 Superintendent of Education; Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes
6 Commission; Director of Health; Director of Human Resources
7 Development; Director of Human Services; Director of Labor and
8 Industrial Relations; Chairperson of the Board of Land and
9 Natural Resources; Director of Law Enforcement; Director of
10 Taxation; Director of Transportation; President of the
11 University of Hawaii System; and Dean of the University of
12 Hawaii William S. Richardson School of Law.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. B.', is written over a horizontal line that serves as a signature line.