
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO OPPOSE H.R. 4137,
THE COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY AND AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2007.

1 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137, the federal College Opportunity and
2 Affordability Act of 2007 is intended to assist the American
3 public in pursuing a college education; and
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5 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137 encourages colleges to reign-in tuition
6 costs and provides prospective students and their families with
7 helpful information; and
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9 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137 was intended to restore integrity and
10 accountability to student loan programs, simplify the federal
11 student aid application process, and make textbook costs more
12 manageable; and
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14 WHEREAS, to achieve these and other objectives, H.R. 4137
15 dictates to the states budgetary mandates that require the
16 states to fund public higher education in an amount:
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18 (1) equal to or greater than the average amount
19 provided by such State to such institutions of
20 higher education during the 5 most recent
21 preceding academic years for which satisfactory
22 data are available; or (2) equal to or greater
23 than the amount provided by such State to such
24 institutions of higher education during the
25 preceding academic year; and
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27 WHEREAS, under the threat of withholding federal higher
28 education funds to the states, H.R. 4137 intrudes upon a state's
29 right to operate and fund its own public college or university;
30 and
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1 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137 ignores a state's higher education goals
2 and objectives that may be crafted to serve its distinctively
3 unique constituency; and
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5 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137 also ignores the budget priorities of
6 the states to govern and support higher education programs that
7 are democratically proposed by state policy makers; and
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9 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137 violates the federalism doctrine by
10 allowing the federal government to overstep its boundaries into
11 an area that has traditionally been the exclusive domain of the
12 states; and
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14 WHEREAS, H.R. 4137 recently passed in the United States
15 House of Representative and is being considered in the United
16 States Senate; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
20 Session of 2008, the Senate concurring, that Hawaii's
21 congressional delegation is urged to oppose H.R. 4137, the
22 College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to Hawaii's congressional
26 delegation, the President of the University of Hawaii, and the
27 Chairperson of the Board of Regents of the University of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY:

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Beale
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MAR 12 2008