

MAR 12 2008

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO ESTABLISH AND ADMINISTER A
REHABILITATIVE AND RELATED SERVICES GRADUATE SCHOOL LOAN
PROGRAM WITHIN ITS CENTER ON DISABILITY STUDIES.

1 WHEREAS, over the past several years, Hawaii's need has
2 grown for licensed physical therapists, registered occupational
3 therapists, licensed speech language pathologists, and school
4 psychologists, to work with children, adults, and the aged
5 alike; and
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7 WHEREAS, there are currently no graduate programs in
8 physical therapy or occupational therapy offered in the State
9 and recruitment and retention of quality trained staff is
10 challenging in many sectors, including education, health, and
11 social services; and
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13 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii's one graduate degree
14 program in speech and audiology is currently on probation, and
15 the University's program in school psychology is currently not
16 accredited; and
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18 WHEREAS, consequently, many Hawaii residents are not only
19 seeking degrees in physical, occupational, and speech therapy
20 outside of the State, but are also continuing to pursue their
21 professional careers outside of Hawaii; and
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23 WHEREAS, there is a great need for qualified individuals to
24 remain and train in Hawaii to provide necessary rehabilitative,
25 therapeutic, and other related services, in order to enhance the
26 State's workforce and ensure that Hawaii residents receive
27 proper care and treatment; now, therefore,
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29 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
30 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, the
31 House of Representatives concurring, that the University of
32 Hawaii is urged to establish a rehabilitative and related



1 services graduate school loan program within its Center on
2 Disability Studies to provide financial support to individuals
3 who complete graduate programs in the fields of physical
4 therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology, or
5 school psychology, and to provide educational loan forgiveness
6 based upon employment in Hawaii with the State or another
7 qualifying institution following completion of the graduate
8 program; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the administrative and fiscal
11 oversight for the program may be provided by either the Center
12 on Disability Studies or a local financial institution; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
15 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the
16 University of Hawaii and the Director of the Center on
17 Disability Studies of the University of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: *Erzanne Chun Oakland*

