
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the University of
2 Hawaii system is facing a financial crisis. The University of
3 Hawaii at Manoa alone is confronting a \$31,000,000 shortfall,
4 decreasing student enrollment, and rising personnel costs.
5 Recent budgets established by the board of regents have not
6 succeeded in reducing budgetary shortfalls, nor have the regents
7 closed programs that are losing money. Accordingly, the
8 legislature finds and declares that the economic self-
9 sufficiency of University of Hawaii programs is a matter of
10 statewide concern under the legislature's purview pursuant to
11 article X, section 6, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 304A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by adding a new section to part V to be appropriately
14 designated and to read as follows:

15 "§304A- Undergraduate degree granting programs; minimum
16 annual graduates; board of regents exemption. (a) Starting
17 with the 2016-2017 academic year, any undergraduate degree



1 granting program at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, the
2 University of Hawaii at Hilo, or the University of Hawaii, West
3 Oahu campus, that graduates less than ten students per academic
4 year, for three consecutive academic years, shall be abolished.

5 (b) This section shall not apply to any undergraduate
6 degree granting program that generates income sufficient to fund
7 its own administrative costs, including salaries, fringe
8 benefits, and other program expenses.

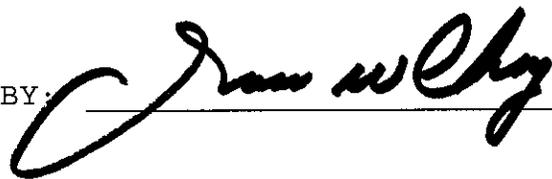
9 (c) The board of regents may adopt rules extending the
10 three consecutive academic year time period in subsection (a) to
11 no more than six consecutive academic years."

12 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

14

INTRODUCED BY:



JAN 23 2015



H.B. NO. 555

Report Title:

University of Hawaii; Budget Crisis; Minimum Graduates

Description:

Requires that any undergraduate degree-granting program that graduates less than ten graduates per year be abolished. Provides an exception for undergraduate programs that are self-sustaining. Authorizes the board of regents to extend the three-year time period to six years.

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