

MAR 13 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO EXPAND ITS SENIOR CITIZEN VISITOR PROGRAM TO ALL ITS UNIVERSITY AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE CAMPUSES.

1 WHEREAS, kupuna, or senior citizens, are an important
2 component of our society, contributing wisdom and depth to our
3 communities; and
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5 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of
6 Labor, the nationwide population of people aged sixty-five to
7 sixty-nine years old will rise by thirty-seven per cent from
8 2010 to 2020, while the number of people aged seventy years and
9 older will rise by thirty-eight per cent; and
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11 WHEREAS, the rising number of people aged seventy-five and
12 older is exponentially greater in the State of Hawaii with an
13 increase of one hundred and sixteen per cent from 1990 to 2012;
14 and
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16 WHEREAS, along with the wisdom and experience that come
17 with age, declines in mental and physical health, such as those
18 resulting from dementia and Alzheimer's disease, can also occur;
19 and
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21 WHEREAS, Jean Carper's book, "100 Simple Things You Can Do
22 to Prevent Alzheimer's and Age-Related Memory Loss," and a
23 number of studies provide evidence that continuing education is
24 one of the ways to maintain mental health; and
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26 WHEREAS, staying cognitively active throughout life, and
27 especially in senior years, is associated with lowering the risk
28 of suffering from Alzheimer's disease; and
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30 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii has established the
31 Senior Citizen Visitor Program to help our kupuna stay mentally



1 active by giving them an opportunity to visit university classes
2 free of charge; and

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4 WHEREAS, approximately three hundred senior citizens visit
5 classes at the University of Hawaii at Manoa each semester
6 through the Senior Citizen Visitor Program; and

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8 WHEREAS, these seniors add to the diversity of campus
9 culture and contribute their experience to the classroom
10 setting; and

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12 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii system includes three
13 university campuses and seven community college campuses; now,
14 therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015,
18 that the University of Hawaii system is requested to expand its
19 Senior Citizen Visitor Program to all its university and
20 community college campuses; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
23 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the University
24 of Hawaii Board of Regents.

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OFFERED BY:

Francesca J. Inouye

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