
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the cost of
2 attending college continues to rise. According to the College
3 Board, the cost of tuition and fees for attending an in-state
4 public college for the 2017-2018 academic year averaged \$9,970,
5 while the average cost for books and supplies for the same
6 academic year at public colleges averaged \$1,250. Additionally,
7 in the last twenty years, the cost of college textbooks has
8 risen much more rapidly than the consumer price index.

9 In April 2016, the Institute for Research on Higher
10 Education at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of
11 Education issued a study that analyzed college costs in relation
12 to family income level. The study revealed how higher education
13 has gone from expensive to unaffordable for most low- and
14 middle-income families. According to this same study, Hawaii
15 ranked third in the nation for overall college affordability and
16 noted that the University of Hawaii community colleges are the
17 most affordable public two-year institutions in the nation.



1 The report further acknowledged that despite Hawaii's
2 overall high affordability ranking, attending college was a big
3 expense for families earning less than \$30,000 annually; that
4 Hawaii's financial aid policies did little to alleviate costs
5 for these families; and that the State provided minimal need-
6 based aid to students attending public institutions. Therefore,
7 new and innovative solutions need to be implemented to lower
8 other costs associated with attending school within the
9 University of Hawaii system.

10 The legislature further finds that since 2015, open
11 educational resources at the University of Hawaii has offered
12 free instructional materials to potentially lower the cost of
13 higher education, provide faculty more control over their
14 instructional materials, and enable new ways of learning for
15 students. Specifically, open educational resources offers
16 learning, teaching, and research resources that are either in
17 the public domain or have been released with an intellectual
18 property license that permits free reuse and repurposing.
19 Through faculty use of open educational resources since its
20 adoption, this technology-driven instructional content has saved
21 students hundreds of thousands of dollars in textbook costs.



1 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 2 (1) Establish the University of Hawaii open educational
3 resources task force to conduct a comprehensive
4 analysis and evaluation on all general education
5 courses and high attendance courses taught at the
6 University of Hawaii system to identify open
7 educational resources for those courses;
- 8 (2) Establish and appropriate funds for an open
9 educational resources pilot project grant program to
10 incentivize faculty that adopt, develop, and implement
11 open educational resources; and
- 12 (3) Require the University of Hawaii open educational
13 resources task force to report its findings and
14 recommendation initiatives for supporting and
15 expanding the use of open educational resources at the
16 University of Hawaii to the Legislature prior to the
17 Regular Session of 2019.

18 SECTION 2. (a) There is established a University of
19 Hawaii open educational resources task force, within the
20 University of Hawaii for administrative purposes, to make
21 college more affordable at the University of Hawaii by focusing



1 on reducing or eliminating the costs of general education course
2 textbooks.

3 (b) The University of Hawaii open educational resources
4 task force shall include but not be limited to the following
5 members:

- 6 (1) The University of Hawaii board of regent academic and
7 student affairs committee chair, to serve as co-chair;
- 8 (2) The University of Hawaii vice president for academic
9 planning and policy, to serve as co-chair;
- 10 (3) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for the
11 University of Hawaii at Manoa;
- 12 (4) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for the
13 University of Hawaii at Hilo;
- 14 (5) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for the
15 University of Hawaii-West Oahu;
- 16 (6) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for the
17 University of Hawaii Maui college;
- 18 (7) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for Kapiolani
19 community college;
- 20 (8) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for Leeward
21 community college;



- 1 (9) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for Windward
2 community college;
- 3 (10) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for Honolulu
4 community college;
- 5 (11) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for Kauai
6 community college;
- 7 (12) The vice chancellor for academic affairs for Hawaii
8 community college;
- 9 (13) The executive director of the University of Hawaii
10 Professional Assembly, or the director's designee;
- 11 (14) A University of Hawaii open educational resources team
12 representative;
- 13 (15) A representative from the University of Hawaii all
14 campus council of faculty senate chairs; and
- 15 (16) The University of Hawaii board of regents student
16 member.
- 17 (c) The University of Hawaii open educational resources
18 task force shall complete a comprehensive analysis and
19 evaluation on all general education courses and high attendance
20 courses taught within the University of Hawaii system and
21 identify open educational resources that may be suitable for



1 those courses. The task force shall work with faculty,
2 librarians, instructional designers, information technology
3 professionals, and the Western Interstate Commission for Higher
4 Education to review national best practices.

5 (d) The University of Hawaii open educational resources
6 task force shall submit a report of its findings and
7 recommendation initiatives for supporting and expanding the use
8 of open educational resources at the University of Hawaii,
9 including the costs for allowing faculty and students from all
10 campuses to access the library reference resources at the
11 University of Hawaii at Manoa, to the legislature no later than
12 twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of
13 2019.

14 (e) The University of Hawaii open educational resources
15 task force shall be dissolved on July 1, 2019.

16 SECTION 3. (a) There is established a one-year open
17 educational resources pilot project grant program to incentivize
18 faculty at the University of Hawaii to adopt, develop, and
19 implement open educational resources for their courses.

20 (b) The open educational resources pilot project grant
21 program shall award grants of up to \$5,000, but no less than



1 \$500, to faculty who want to begin to use open educational
2 resources or who are currently using open educational resources.

3 (c) Grants shall be awarded by the University of Hawaii,
4 in conjunction with the University of Hawaii open educational
5 resources task force.

6 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
9 open educational resources pilot project grant program.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the University of
11 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

University of Hawaii Open Educational Resources Task Force; Open Educational Resources Pilot Project Grant Program; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the University of Hawaii open educational resources task force to conduct a comprehensive analysis and evaluation on all general education courses and high attendance courses taught at the University of Hawaii system to identify open educational resources for those courses. Establishes and appropriates funds for an open educational resources pilot project grant program to incentivize faculty that adopt, develop, and implement open educational resources. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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