
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON SCHOOL OF LAW TO CONVENE A TASK FORCE TO STUDY AND REPORT ON A LOAN FORGIVENESS PROGRAM FOR LAW STUDENTS TO PROVIDE INCENTIVES FOR LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, even at public law schools such as the William S.
2 Richardson School of Law, tuition and costs are high; and

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4 WHEREAS, many law school graduates face significant debt
5 upon their graduation; and

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7 WHEREAS, significant debt for law school graduates narrows
8 their work choices following law school; and

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10 WHEREAS, Hawaii residents in rural areas face significant
11 legal challenges in the course of their daily lives; and

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13 WHEREAS, a financial aid program for law school graduates
14 that incentivizes serving residents in rural areas would benefit
15 those residents, the law school graduates, and the community as
16 a whole; now, therefore,

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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
19 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
20 2019, that the William S. Richardson School of Law is requested
21 to convene a task force to study the possibility of establishing
22 a loan forgiveness program in connection with serving certain
23 residents in rural areas in Hawaii; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force shall be named
26 the Task Force for Rural Legal Assistance; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force for Rural Legal
29 Assistance consist of the following members:

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31 (1) The Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law,
32 or a designee;

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34 (2) A representative from the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii;



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- (3) A representative from the Hawaii Justice Foundation;
- (4) A representative from the Access to Justice Commission;
- (5) A member of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate President; and
- (6) A member of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Task Force for Rural Legal Assistance is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature at least ten days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2020; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Dean of the William S. Richardson School of Law, Executive Director of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Chair of the Hawaii Justice Foundation, and Chair of the Access to Justice Commission.

OFFERED BY:

Doug Carnas
Bob White
Bob Stole
Rich Lopez
Amy Carnas

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Tim Wmeyer
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