Establishing the legislative priorities for the University of Hawai`i Student Caucus

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII STUDENT CAUCUS:

WHEREAS, the University of Hawai`i Student Caucus is the representative organization of the students of the University of Hawai`i system as chartered by the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai`i; and

WHEREAS, according to our purpose to serve as a collective voice for all University of Hawai`i students, we are established to advocate for the interests and needs of students throughout the system; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Hawai`i Student Caucus shall provide a cohesive and unified voice before the Board of Regents, the University Administration, the Hawai`i State Legislature, and other policy-making bodies; and,

WHEREAS, the nation is confronting “one of the severest economic crises we have ever faced” as stated in Governor Linda Lingle’s state of the state address; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Lingle has cut the University of Hawai`i System budget by 10% for the 2009-2011 biennium budget proposal and requested that the University of Hawaii prepare for further budget cuts as high as 20% for the next fiscal year; and,

WHEREAS, access to higher education is critical to the future economic health of Hawai`i, and public financial support is essential to keeping access affordable; and,

WHEREAS, the spring 2009 opening enrollment for the University of Hawai`i System reached an all-time record of 50,952, the highest spring enrollment in the institution’s history; and,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the University of Hawai`i Student Caucus requests that the Hawai`i State Legislature support the biennium budget priorities as put forth by the University of Hawai`i Board of Regents requesting funds for Capital Improvement Projects and uphold maintenance needs at all University of Hawai`i campuses; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that further budget cuts will be detrimental to the educational capital of the state severely limiting the University of Hawai`i’s ability to provide high quality educational services to the State of Hawai`i; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the Hawaii State Legislature, Governor Linda Lingle, the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai`i, UH President David McClain, UH Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Karen Lee, and all media outlets.