



THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I STUDENT CAUCUS

UHSC RESOLUTION 02-20

IN SUPPORT TO IMPLEMENT A STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND PROGRAM FOR ALL UH SYSTEM-WIDE CAMPUSES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I STUDENT CAUCUS:

- WHEREAS,* The University of Hawai'i Student Caucus (UHSC) is the representative organization of the students of the University of Hawai'i System as chartered by the Board of Regents, representing approximately 51,000 students; and,
- WHEREAS,* Hawaii has the highest cost of living in the US, 48% of Hawaii households are ¹“Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed” and below, 11% of families live in poverty²; and,
- WHEREAS,* “Peer Universities in other states, as well as a number of University of Hawai'i, currently have a Student Action Fund for Emergency Relief, or similar entity, in place to assist students financially for temporary hardship due to unexpected situations”; and,
- WHEREAS,* University of Hawai'i recognizes University of California - Davis, Oregon State University, and University of Illinois - Chicago as peer and benchmark institutions, of which all currently have a Student Action Fund for Emergency Relief, or similar entity, and,
- WHEREAS,* The University of Hawaii system-wide campuses who have a proposed emergency fund program implemented at Leeward Community College: Wai'anae Moku Education Center, Kauai Community College, and Hawaii Community College; and,
- WHEREAS,* Currently the University of Hawaii system-wide campuses do not have a comprehensive student emergency fund in place; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED,* UHSC recognizes financial security as a top priority for the academic year of 2019-2020; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED,* UHSC recognizes that financial hardship is one of the pressing issues University of Hawai'i students are facing as students have to pay the cost of living, tuition, and personal expenses; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED,* UHSC encourages that with the creation of this emergency fund, students are able to further their college education without great financial worries; and,

¹ <https://www.kitv.com/story/37229770/auw-report-nearly-half-of-hawaiis-households-unable-to-make-ends-meet>

² <https://smartasset.com/mortgage/the-cost-of-living-in-hawaii>

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges the UH administration to implement a Student Emergency Fund program across all of the UH system-wide campuses; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges each UH campus to lead their own Student Emergency Fund program committee to handle the student requirements to be eligible for such funds from the program; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges each campus to select student delegates to be represented in the Student Emergency Fund program committee; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, UHSC urges each campus in the UH System to create a Student Emergency Fund program by the start of Fall 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: the Hawai'i State Legislature, the University of Hawai'i Board of Regents Chair Benjamin Kudo and Members, University of Hawai'i President David Lassner, all UH Campus Chancellors, Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy Donald Straney, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs Hae Okimoto.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO ACCEPT UHSC RESOLUTION 02-20

Aye(s): Hawai'i Community College, Honolulu Community College, ASUH Manoa, Windward Community College, Graduate Student Organization, University of Hawai'i Hilo.

Naye(s):

Abstention(s): University of Hawai'i West O'ahu, Leeward Community College and Kaua'i Community College

Introduced By:

Raiyan Rafid, Treasurer- UH Student Caucus,

Ramon Araujo Jr., Vice Chair- UH Student Caucus

Rene Hutchins, Windward CC Campus Delegate - UH Student Caucus