

**ASSOCIATED STUDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA
2465 Campus Road, Campus Center 211A
Honolulu, HI 96822**

Senate Resolution 02-17

**IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED FUNDING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AT
THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I AT MĀNOA**

WHEREAS, the Associated Students of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (ASUH) Senate is the elected body representing approximately 11,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,

WHEREAS, poor mental health is distinct issue of university students across the nation; and

WHEREAS, data collected by American College Health Association from 137 college and university counseling centers in Fall 2008¹ through Spring 2016, presented an increase of students reporting depression, overwhelming anxiety and social anxiety²; and,

WHEREAS, the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (ADAA) reports that anxiety disorders are the most common mental illness in the U.S.; they affect 40 million adults over the age of 18, nearly 75% of those affected by an anxiety disorder will experience their first episode before the age of 22³; and,

WHEREAS, according to Joel A. Dvoskin, a practicing clinical and forensic psychologist and faculty member of the University of Arizona School of Medicine, the 15-24 year old category is increasing at an alarming rate in relation to suicide⁴; and,

WHEREAS, according to the Center for Disease Control, one in every twelve U.S. college students makes a suicide plan⁵; and,

WHEREAS, according to the American Psychological Association (APA), students who have emotional and behavioral problems can adversely affect others on campus if they do not have the proper psychological services⁶; and,

¹ http://www.acha-ncha.org/docs/ACHA-NCHA_Reference_Group_ExecutiveSummary_Fall2008.pdf

² [http://www.acha-ncha.org/docs/NCHA-](http://www.acha-ncha.org/docs/NCHA-II%20SPRING%202016%20US%20REFERENCE%20GROUP%20EXECUTIVE%20SUMMARY.pdf)

[II%20SPRING%202016%20US%20REFERENCE%20GROUP%20EXECUTIVE%20SUMMARY.pdf](http://www.acha-ncha.org/docs/NCHA-II%20SPRING%202016%20US%20REFERENCE%20GROUP%20EXECUTIVE%20SUMMARY.pdf)

³ <http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/top-5-mental-health-problems-facing-college-students/>

⁴ <http://www.apa.org/about/gr/pi/news/2014/suicide-testimony.aspx>

⁵ <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicide-datasheet-a.pdf>

⁶ <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2011/09/crisis-campus.aspx>

- WHEREAS*, the national trend of increased requests for counseling services parallels the growing need for services at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa (UHM); and,
- WHEREAS*, there are only seven and a half tenured tracked psychologists at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa Counseling and Student Life Development Center (CSDC); far below the national guideline of one licensed psychologist for every 1,000 to 1,500 students; and,
- WHEREAS*, due to this understaffing, the non-urgent waitlist for individual psychotherapy services at the CSDC begins by September of each year, and at peak times, a wait for an initial intake appointment can range from five days to two and a half weeks; and,
- WHEREAS*, the CSDC serves walk-ins for urgent emergencies and crises⁷; and,
- WHEREAS*, the Vice-Chancellor for Student Affairs Lori Ideta inserted a request for \$200K and 1.5 positions (one psychiatrist) into the Mānoa biennium budget draft request; and,
- WHEREAS*, in the 28th Legislature, 2016, Representative Isaac Choy Hawai‘i State Legislature introduced HB 1703⁸ and Senator Brian Taniguchi of the Hawai‘i State Legislature introduced its companion bill, SB 2767,⁹ to address the increasing influx of CSDC clients; and,
- WHEREAS*, HB 1703¹⁰ and SB 2767¹¹ aimed to fund for three full-time psychologist position and one full-time case manager position; and,
- WHEREAS*, both HB 1703 and its companion bill, SB 2767 died in committee and did not become law; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED*, the ASUH strongly renews its belief that hiring more positions at the CSDC offers a tangible step toward prioritizing the mental and emotional well-being of UHM students; and,
- BE IT RESOLVED*, the ASUH is immensely confident that the advancement of mental health services will generate a positive impact on academic success and retention for individuals seeking counseling, as demonstrated in national surveys; and

⁷ http://manoa.hawaii.edu/counseling/our_services/

⁸ http://capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=1703&year=2016

⁹ http://capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2767&year=2016

¹⁰ http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/HB1703_SD1_.pdf

¹¹ http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/SB2767_SD2_.pdf

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH respectfully requests three new psychologists and one case manager, and that the CSDC extend help to other campuses when necessary; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Hawai‘i State Legislature also consider providing support through funding of said positions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH courteously request the 29th Hawai‘i State Legislature to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for said positions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the ASUH humbly requests that the Board of Regents allocate sufficient amount of funds to have said positions in the 2017 Biennium Budget Request to ensure permanency of the additional CSDC; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: Hawai‘i State Governor David Ige; Senator Brian Taniguchi, Senator Jill Tokuda; Representative Isaac Choy; Representative Sylvia Luke; UH President and UH Mānoa Interim Chancellor David Lassner; the UH Board of Regents Chairperson Jan Sullivan and Members; UH Mānoa Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta; UH Mānoa Interim Associate Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students Mike Kaptik; Director of the UH Mānoa Counseling and Student Development Center Dr. Allyson Tanouye; the Honolulu Star Advertiser; and the Ka Leo o Hawai‘i.

Introducers: David B. Enriquez, Senator-At-Large; Shanda Shamela Delos Reyes, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences; Nicholas Ishii, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences; Jannah Lyn Dela Cruz, Vice-President; Tkani Finau, Senator of the College of Architecture; Jessica Chen, Senator-At-Large; Danson Honda, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences; Alex Lee, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences; Lisa Takagi, Senator of the College of Arts and Sciences

ROLL CALL VOTE FOR SENATE RESOLUTION 02-17 WITH AMENDMENTS

Aye(s): Vice-President Dela Cruz, Treasurer Hinshaw, Secretary Nishihara, Senators-at-Large Callihan, Chen, Enriquez, Willis, Senators Barrow, Bruno, Chen, Crollard, Delos Reyes, Finau, Fong, Ho, Honda, Ikeda, Ishii, Klinestiver, Lao, Lee, Leval, Lo, Negrillo, Omokawa, Takagi, Tran, Urasaki, Utashiro, Wang, Yamada, Zabanal
[32]

Naye(s): [0]

Abstain(s): [0]