

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

**In the Senate**  
**March 11, 2020**

**Senate Resolution 11-20**  
**For First Reading**

**A RESOLUTION**

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

BE IT ENACTED BY THE UNDERGRADUATE SENATE:

*WHEREAS,* the Associated Students of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Senate is the elected body representing approximately 10,000 full-time classified undergraduate students; and,

*WHEREAS,* in recent years, anxiety diagnoses, depression diagnoses, and suicidal thoughts have increased among UHM students and across the U.S, and,

*WHEREAS,* CSDC does around 8,000 individual therapy sessions per school year, but we currently have only 6 licensed mental health counselors; far below the national guideline of one licensed psychologist for every 1,000 to 1,500 students; and students are required to wait an average of 23 days from their initial call for help to the time they meet with a licensed counselor; and,

*WHEREAS,* data collected by the World Health Organization from 14,000 first-year college students from eight countries found that 35 percent struggled with a mental illness, including but not limited to major depressive disorder and general anxiety disorder<sup>1</sup>; 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 22<sup>2</sup>; and,

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cnbc.com/2018/10/04/4-ways-to-be-proactive-about-your-mental-health-in-college.html>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.bestcolleges.com/resources/top-5-mental-health-problems-facing-college-students/>

**THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY THE 107TH ASUH SENATE ON APRIL  
8TH 2020**

*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 suicide<sup>3</sup>; and,

*WHEREAS*, according to the Center for Disease Control, one in every twelve U.S. college students makes a suicide plan<sup>4</sup>; 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 services<sup>5</sup>; and,

*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*, 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 crises<sup>6</sup>; 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 1703<sup>7</sup> and Senator Brian Taniguchi of the Hawai‘i State Legislature introduced its companion bill, SB 2767<sup>8</sup>, to address the increasing influx of CSDC clients; and,

*WHEREAS*, HB 1703<sup>9</sup> and SB 2767<sup>10</sup> aimed to fund for three full-time psychologist position and one full-time case manager position; and,

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.apa.org/about/gr/pi/news/2014/suicide-testimony.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/suicide-datasheet-a.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <http://www.apa.org/monitor/2011/09/crisis-campus.aspx>

<sup>6</sup> [http://manoa.hawaii.edu/counseling/our\\_services/](http://manoa.hawaii.edu/counseling/our_services/)

<sup>7</sup> [http://capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=1703&year=2016](http://capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=HB&billnumber=1703&year=2016)

<sup>8</sup> [http://capitol.hawaii.gov/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2767&year=2016](http://capitol.hawaii.gov/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=2767&year=2016)

<sup>9</sup> [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/HB1703\\_SD1\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/HB1703_SD1_.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/SB2767\\_SD2\\_.pdf](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2016/bills/SB2767_SD2_.pdf)

*WHEREAS*, both HB 1703 and its companion bill, SB 2767 died in committee and did not become law; and,

*WHEREAS*, the 104th<sup>11</sup> ASUH Senate officially supported the increased resources of mental health services; 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

*BE IT RESOLVED*, the ASUH respectfully requests six additional mental health professionals, 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 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 ensure permanency of the additional CSDC resources; and,

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED*, that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: that copies of this resolution shall be sent to: Hawai‘i State Governor David Ige; Senator Donovan Dela Cruz; Senator Donna Mercado Kim; Representative Justin Woodson; Representative Sylvia Luke; the University of Hawai‘i Board of Regents Chair Benjamin Kudo and Members, President David Lassner, Provost Michael Bruno, Interim Vice Chancellor for Students Lori Ideta, Director of Counseling and Student Development Center (CSDC) Dr. Allyson Tanouye, the Graduate Student Organization, and Ka Leo O Hawai‘i.

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<sup>11</sup> [https://a0120133-a47f-49ba-abdb-f38dc4f9c8e4.filesusr.com/ugd/4c94d0\\_2b5d470b334b488380f1b2bbaf360321.pdf](https://a0120133-a47f-49ba-abdb-f38dc4f9c8e4.filesusr.com/ugd/4c94d0_2b5d470b334b488380f1b2bbaf360321.pdf)

INTRODUCED BY

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