
HOUSE RESOLUTION

PROCLAIMING NOVEMBER 21, 2009, AS ISLAM DAY.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii is known for the wealth of its cultural
2 diversity and the harmony with which people of many cultures and
3 religions live together; and
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5 WHEREAS, Muslims constitute an ethnically diverse part of
6 Hawaii's cultural fabric, with around 3,000 practicing members;
7 and
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9 WHEREAS, November 21, 2009, marks the anniversary of the
10 founding of Islam, a religion with a long and noble history; and
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12 WHEREAS, Islam is the second largest religion in the world,
13 with over one billion followers spread across every continent,
14 and including members of many nations and many cultures; and
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16 WHEREAS, the Islamic world preserved works of science and
17 philosophy during the Middle Ages when these disciplines were
18 threatened by bigotry and prejudice in other parts of the world;
19 and
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21 WHEREAS, Islamic artists, scientists, and philosophers have
22 a rich history of contribution to world literature and our
23 collective scientific understanding; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Islamic faith incorporates the teachings and
26 texts of both Christianity and Judaism, whose followers are
27 respected and considered "People of the Book"; and
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29 WHEREAS, Islamic doctrine encourages generosity in its
30 adherents, maintaining that those who possess much have a
31 responsibility to care for those in need; and
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1 WHEREAS, Islam is a religion of peace, along with its
2 monotheistic counterparts, and holds that peace is a divine
3 quality and necessary for collective human happiness; and
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5 WHEREAS, Islam strives for a world-wide community which, in
6 the words of one Islamic poet-philosopher, "does not recognize
7 the superficial differences of race, or history, or
8 nationality"; and
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10 WHEREAS, the United States and countries of the Islamic
11 world hold in common many beliefs and values including concepts
12 of world community and mutual responsibility; and
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14 WHEREAS, international understanding and peace, as well as
15 understanding and peace in our local communities are
16 strengthened by free and open communications among everyone
17 representing various cultural and religious traditions; now,
18 therefore,
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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
22 of 2009, that November 21, 2009, shall be known as "Islam Day"
23 to recognize the rich religious, scientific, cultural, and
24 artistic contribution Islam and the Islamic world has made since
25 its founding; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and the Board of the
29 Muslim Association of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: *Gella A. Belatti* *Lyla B. Berg*
Ray Sanders

MAR - 4 2009