

FEB 02 2009

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

AFFIRMING THAT THE DESCENDANTS OF THE RACES INHABITING THE ISLANDS OF HAWAI'I, MAUI, MOLOKA'I, LĀNA'I, KAHO'OLAWA, O'AHU, KAUA'I, NI'IHOU, AND NIHOA TO KANEMILOHA'I (KURE ATOLL) PRIOR TO WESTERN CONTACT IN 1778 COMPRISE THE INDIGENOUS, ABORIGINAL, "MAOLI" PEOPLES OF HAWAI'I.

1 WHEREAS, traditional Hawaiian lore tells of the origins of
2 the earth, flora, fauna, the gods and kanaka - man - in such
3 cosmogonic genealogies as the Kumulipo (source from the dark);
4 and
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6 WHEREAS, in an important mo'olelo (story) of our kūpuna,
7 sky-father Wākea and his beloved Ho'ohōkūkalanī give birth to
8 their first child, Hālolaukapalili, who emerges stillborn, and,
9 later, from his grave, sprouts the first kalo (taro), staff of
10 life of the Hawaiian people; and
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12 WHEREAS, Hāloanaka, their second son, lives, and is the
13 progenitor of all indigenous Hawaiians, with the profound
14 responsibility of caring for and respecting his kaikua'ana (elder
15 sibling), the kalo; and
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17 WHEREAS, Western anthropology traces early Polynesian
18 settlement in the previously uninhabited Hawai'i as early as the
19 time of Christ with origins from Nukuhiwa, and much later in
20 1000 A.D., from Tahiti; and
21

22 WHEREAS, that ancient central Polynesian culture and
23 society evolved into a sophisticated system of island
24 governments where the ali'i or nobility ruled, and the
25 maka'āinana or general citizenry worked the land and sustained
26 life and cared for the land; and
27



1 WHEREAS, the sciences, including celestial navigation,
2 aquaculture, agriculture, meteorology, and medicine evolved to
3 the highest forms in all of Polynesia due to relative isolation
4 in Hawai'i except for periodic voyages to Tahiti and other
5 distant lands primarily for religious and political purposes;
6 and
7

8 WHEREAS, utilitarian and aesthetic Hawaiian arts including
9 woodwork, weaving, fiber arts, and feather work are among the
10 finest in all of Polynesia; and
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12 WHEREAS, Hawai'i and indigenous Hawaiian people are a part
13 of a larger, ancient Polynesian family system that includes the
14 aboriginal populations of Aotearoa (New Zealand), Nukuhiwa, Te
15 Ao Maohi (French Polynesia), Rarotonga, Sāmoa, Tonga, and more;
16 and
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18 WHEREAS, since 1778, Hawai'i has been visited and settled by
19 Europeans, Americans, Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, Filipinos,
20 and virtually every human race; and
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22 WHEREAS, through more than two hundred twenty-eight years
23 of socio-political change and cultural assimilation, Native
24 Hawaiians have maintained their uniquely Hawaiian cultural
25 practices and share those practices with kama'āina and malihini
26 alike and others throughout the world; and
27

28 WHEREAS, the Hawaiian cultural practices that pre-date
29 Western arrival and settlement and are still very much alive
30 today include 'ōlelo Hawai'i (Hawaiian language), mo'okū'auhau
31 (genealogical study), hula (traditional dance), oli (chant), he'e
32 nalu (surfing), hoe wa'a (canoe paddling), ho'okele wa'a
33 (navigation), mahi'ai kalo (taro farming), loko i'a
34 (fishponds/aquaculture), hana lei (lei making), haku hulu
35 (featherwork), hana kapa (bark cloth making), uhi kākau
36 (tattooing), kālai lā'au (wood carving), and dozens more; and
37

38 WHEREAS, according to the 2000 United States Census, Hawai'i
39 citizens of indigenous, aboriginal, "maoli" descent number
40 approximately two hundred fifty thousand, while Native Hawaiians
41 living in the continental United States number one hundred sixty
42 thousand; and
43



S.C.R. NO. 10

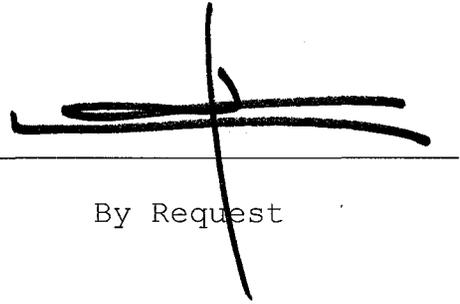
1 WHEREAS, Hawai'i is the only place on Earth that is the
2 ancient, original home to the indigenous, aboriginal, "maoli"
3 Hawaiian population; and
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5 WHEREAS, neither the United States nor the State of Hawai'i
6 governments have explicitly acknowledged that Native Hawaiians
7 are the indigenous, aboriginal, "maoli" people of Hawai'i; now,
8 therefore,
9

10 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
11 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009, the
12 House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature
13 affirms that Native Hawaiians are indeed the only indigenous,
14 aboriginal, "maoli" people of Hawai'i nei; and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the
18 State of Hawaii, the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs, and
19 the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.
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22

OFFERED BY:



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By Request

