WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian architecture is unlike any localized styles seen in Hawaii today; and

WHEREAS, despite superficial similarities to forms that existed prior to Western contact in 1778, the present styles lack the spiritual and metaphysical identity that made the traditional, indigenous, pre-contact architecture uniquely Native Hawaiian; and

WHEREAS, in enacting Act 310, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006, the Legislature sought to allow the use of the techniques, styles, and customs of Native Hawaiian architecture to be employed in present-day construction in the State by requiring each county to adopt ordinances allowing the exercise of Native Hawaiian architectural practices, styles, customs, techniques, and materials in the county's building code; and

WHEREAS, Act 310 also permitted the application of Native Hawaiian architecture in all zoning districts, if consistent with the intent and purpose of a uniquely designated, special, or historic district; and

WHEREAS, despite the Legislature's intentions, a full revival of Native Hawaiian architecture as a viable way of life has not occurred; and

WHEREAS, Native Hawaiian architecture is currently employed only on a "showcase" basis, and is not regarded as a form of architecture that fosters a restored traditional, economical, efficient, and simple lifestyle that meets the spiritual and material needs and interests of Native Hawaiians; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that each county is urged to establish a Native Hawaiian Building Code.
Hawaiian building code, separate from its standard building code, that protects and promotes the exercise of indigenous Native Hawaiian architectural practices, styles, customs, techniques, and materials employed by Native Hawaiians; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county is urged to allow the application of Native Hawaiian architecture in all zoning districts, rather than only in uniquely designated, special, or historic districts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each county is urged to adopt or amend its ordinances no later than March 31, 2011; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county.

OFFERED BY:  

Maree Canaan

Kai Ka'ana

Mark Takashima

MAR 10 2010