WHEREAS, the State of Hawaii recognizes those individuals in state organizations who selflessly give so much of their time, energies, and talents to contribute to the overall well-being of these Islands; and

WHEREAS, past and future successes of the Hawaii film industry are in large part due to the hard work and dedication of the Creative Industries Division of the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and

WHEREAS, established in 1978, the Hawaii Film Office coordinates film and photographic use of Hawaii's parks, beaches, highways, and facilities with the entertainment industry to help acquire film permits and direct them to appropriate county and federal agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office consolidated the film permitting program which is the only one of its kind in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office also manages the Hawaii Film Studio at Diamond Head and develops the local film, television, and digital media industries in the state; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office secured $7.3 million in capital improvement projects funding to complete much-needed renovations at the Hawaii Film Studio after funding had lapsed for nearly seven years; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office played an instrumental role in bringing "Lost" to Hawaii by securing the Hawaii Department
of Land and Natural Resources permission to store and facilitate equipment and props used by the production crew; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office led the industry effort to secure passage of Act 88, the 15-20 percent motion picture, digital media, and film production refundable tax credit, and developed the application, certification, and statistics-tracking program to successfully manage the credit; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office processes more than 1,000 film permits annually for filming activity within the state and has supported more than 7,000 film, television, and commercial projects since 2001, including Blue Crush; The Rundown; Planet of the Apes (2001); Die Another Day; 50 First Dates; Pirates of the Caribbean: At World’s End; Forgetting Sarah Marshall; and Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull; and

WHEREAS, the Hawaii Film Office laid the groundwork for all productions that just completed filming, currently shooting in Hawaii, or planning to come to Hawaii to film, including Hereafter, Soul Surfer, Divine Hero, The Descendants, Battleship, Hawaii Five-O, and Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides; 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 the members of this body hereby recognize and congratulate the Hawaii Film Office administration, including Sandi Ichihara-Abe, Tammy Hasegawa, Charlene "Chuckie" Kwak, and former members: Donne Dawson, Brent Anbe, and Kevin Inouye for its hardworking efforts in enhancing the Hawaii film industry, thanks it for its outstanding contributions to the community, and extends to it its warmest aloha and best wishes in all future endeavors.

OFFERED BY:

MAR 24 2010