WHEREAS, Kanaka Maoli are the indigenous peoples of Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, indigenous peoples from all over the world are invited once every four years to gather at a Healing Our Spirit Worldwide gathering, an indigenous cultural celebration focusing on common issues, wise practices, and successes in health, healing, and addictions within indigenous communities; and

WHEREAS, this movement was founded almost 20 years ago by Ms. Maggie Hodgson, a Carrier First Nation member and representative to a World Health Organization conference on indigenous peoples' health, and since then, such gatherings have been hosted by First Nations people of Canada, the Aborigine of Australia, Maori of Aotearoa, and American Indians and Alaska Natives of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, Papa Ola Lokahi, the native Hawaiian health board, was asked to facilitate participation of Kanaka Maoli at the 5th Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Gathering in Edmonton, Canada; and

WHEREAS, more than 75 Kanaka Maoli participated at the 5th gathering, which provided the impetus for Kanaka Maoli to support and host the 6th gathering in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, the 6th Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Gathering is scheduled for September 3-10, 2010, at the Hawaii Convention Center and other venues throughout the state, and is being facilitated by Papa Ola Lokahi; and

WHEREAS, indigenous peoples from around the world will be attending the 6th Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Gathering; and
WHEREAS, the Hawaiian culture is rich in healing methods, such as Hawaiian medicinal plants, lomi lomi, ho’oponopono, and the natural healing powers of the sun and sea; and

WHEREAS, the 6th Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Gathering provides an opportunity for Hawaii to share its rich Hawaiian and diverse culture; 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 this body expresses its support for, and urges participation in, the 6th Healing Our Spirit Worldwide Gathering; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs and Papa Ola Lokahi.