
HOUSE RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY
2012 HAWAII STATE HONOREES AND 2012 HAWAII STATE
DISTINGUISHED FINALISTS.

1 WHEREAS, the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards is the
2 United States' largest youth recognition program based on
3 volunteer community service; and
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5 WHEREAS, the awards were created in 1995 by Prudential in
6 partnership with the National Association of Secondary School
7 Principals to honor middle and high school students at the
8 local, state, and national levels for outstanding service to
9 other; and
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11 WHEREAS, over the past seventeen years, more than 310,000
12 young Americans have participated in the program and more than
13 95,000 of them have been officially recognized for their
14 volunteer work; and
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16 WHEREAS, the program strives to both acknowledge young
17 people who are making a positive difference and to inspire
18 others to think about how they might contribute to the well
19 being of their communities; and
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21 WHEREAS, the top middle and high school students from
22 Hawaii will receive a silver medallion and a \$1,000 scholarship
23 and will travel to Washington D.C.; and
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25 WHEREAS, the two 2012 Hawaii State Honorees are Candonino
26 Agusen and Jackson Button; and
27

28 WHEREAS, Candonino Agusen, 16, of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, a
29 junior at Kealakehe High School, helped raise more than \$64,000
30 to buy temporary housing kits for hundreds of people displaced
31 by the earthquake in Japan last year and an additional \$2,000 by



1 making Senbazuru, one thousand origami cranes, strung together;
2 and
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5 WHEREAS, Jackson Button, 13, of Waialua, Hawaii, an eighth-
6 grader at Hawaii Technology Academy in Waipahu, co-founded a
7 nonprofit organization with his sisters that has raised nearly
8 \$100,000 to support a wide variety of projects aiding children
9 in Africa, Mexico and the United States; and
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11 WHEREAS, the money raised so far has been used to provide
12 scholarships to children who have lost a parent to cancer or
13 other diseases, a solar heater for a Mexican orphanage, four
14 acres of fertile farm land in Uganda for an orphanage of
15 children with HIV/AIDS, the orphanage's first dormitory and
16 staff housing, school supplies and backpacks for underprivileged
17 kids in Hawaii and a therapeutic riding horse for disabled
18 children; and
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20 WHEREAS, the 2012 Hawaii State Distinguished Finalists are
21 Scott Fetz and Jessica Sonson; and
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23 WHEREAS, Scott Fetz, 16, of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, a sophomore
24 at Hawaii Preparatory Academy in Kamuela, is a passionate
25 community advocate and volunteer whose service began when he
26 opened and managed a school store that raised more than \$12,000
27 to purchase school supplies and is an active member of numerous
28 service groups, including SADD, American Red Cross, and the
29 Service Learning Advisory Council, and has created a number of
30 school service projects including a beautification project and a
31 unity program; and
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33 WHEREAS, Jessica Sonson, 17, of Ewa Beach, Hawaii, a senior
34 at Lanakila Baptist Jr. and Sr. High School, is an active
35 volunteer who currently serves her school as the president of
36 the National Honor Society and as the president of the student
37 council and is a weekly volunteer at the Pali Momi Medical
38 Center where she assists staff and helps patients with their
39 basic needs; therefore
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
2 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
3 of 2012, that this body commends and congratulates Candonino
4 Agusen and Jackson Button as the 2012 Hawaii State Honorees and
5 Scott Fetz and Jessica Sonson as 2012 Hawaii State Distinguished
6 Finalists.

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OFFERED BY:

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MAR 20 2012

