
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION ON ITS EFFORTS TO PROMOTE
COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP AND CIVIC PARTICIPATION AND
ENCOURAGING THE COMMISSION TO EXPAND OUTREACH TO
COMMUNITIES TO PROMOTE MEMBERSHIP AND PARTICIPATION.

1 WHEREAS, in 1973, the Revised City Charter of Honolulu
2 featured the theme "The Responsible City," which called for a
3 concept of full citizen participation in government to ensure
4 that the powers of the City would properly serve and advance the
5 aspirations of its citizens; and

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7 WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Commission was established to
8 develop a Neighborhood Plan to create boundaries throughout the
9 island of Oahu, forming neighborhood areas and neighborhood
10 boards; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Oahu Neighborhood Board System was created to
13 assure and increase community participation in the decision-
14 making process of government through the establishment of an
15 island-wide network of elected boards to function as
16 communication channels, expanding and facilitating opportunities
17 for community and government interaction; and

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19 WHEREAS, each of the 36 Neighborhood Boards serve as key
20 mechanisms through which neighborhoods communicate needs and
21 desires for basic government services, address economic
22 development and land use questions, and establish community
23 goals, objectives, and priorities; and

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25 WHEREAS, in addition to serving as elected Board members,
26 members of the community are encouraged to participate in the
27 Neighborhood Board System by voicing issues to Board members,
28 attending regular monthly meetings, participating on Board
29 subcommittees, or responding to surveys conducted by the Board;
30 and



1 WHEREAS, Neighborhood Boards serve an important function in
 2 encouraging civic participation in community and government
 3 issues and are a convenient way for citizens to learn about the
 4 public process; and

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 6 WHEREAS, the prevalence and advancement of communication
 7 technology, especially Internet tools such as email and social
 8 media, has made distributing information more convenient and
 9 accessible than ever; and

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 11 WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Commission Office, which oversees
 12 the Neighborhood Boards, has already taken steps to launch the
 13 "Be Heard Do Good" campaign on outlets including Facebook,
 14 Twitter, and Instagram in an attempt to further engage and
 15 encourage citizens to get involved in their communities and
 16 Neighborhood Boards; now, therefore,

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 18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 19 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 20 Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that this body hereby
 21 commends the Neighborhood Commission on its efforts to promote
 22 community fellowship and civic participation, and encourages the
 23 Commission to continue to expand such efforts; and

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 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that each Neighborhood Board is
 26 encouraged to take measures to increase outreach to community
 27 members in each neighborhood through traditional or new media
 28 methods to provide notice of its monthly meetings, Board
 29 initiatives, and opportunities for Board membership to bring
 30 diverse voices to each meeting and ensure that all opinions of
 31 the community are heard; and

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 33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 34 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Neighborhood
 35 Commission Office and to the Chair of each of Oahu's 36
 36 Neighborhood Boards.

OFFERED BY:

Jakubu On

*BA - In Hill with
 [Signature]*

Beth Lukumb

Michelle E. Lowe

[Signature]

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