
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ASSERTING THE STATE OF HAWAII'S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY,
INCLUSIVENESS, JUSTICE, EQUALITY, COMPASSION, AND
DEMOCRATIC VALUES IN RESPONSE TO THE 2016 PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTION THROUGH THE SPIRIT OF ALOHA.

1 WHEREAS, on November 8, 2016, the presidential candidate of
2 one of America's two major political parties was elected to
3 become the forty-fifth President of the United States, despite
4 losing the national popular vote by over three million votes;
5 and

6
7 WHEREAS, the course and result of the 2016 presidential
8 election has fueled deep philosophical, social, and political
9 divides among the nation's populace; and

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11 WHEREAS, a significant proportion of the American public is
12 deeply dissatisfied with the outcome of the election, and has
13 expressed outrage over various factors they assert as having led
14 to its results, which include, but are not limited to:

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16 (1) Lies and misrepresentations of facts by candidates and
17 campaigns;
18
19 (2) Fear and hate mongering;
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21 (3) Fabricated or "fake" news;
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23 (4) Appeal to white supremacist support;
24
25 (5) Lack of awareness and understanding of civics, the
26 democratic process, and the basic workings of American
27 government;



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- 1 (6) Alleged interference of foreign powers in our voting
2 process;
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- 4 (7) Apparent partisanship within non-partisan government
5 agencies;
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- 7 (8) Misogyny;
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- 9 (9) Racism;
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- 11 (10) Classism;
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- 13 (11) Xenophobia;
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- 15 (12) Homophobia;
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- 17 (13) Disrespect and disregard for the rights of the
18 disabled;
- 19
- 20 (14) Prejudice or discrimination, in various forms;
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- 22 (15) Narcissistic egotism;
- 23
- 24 (16) Lack of critical analysis;
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- 26 (17) Lack of civility and coarsening of debate through
27 personal attack and name-calling;
- 28
- 29 (18) Rebuke and discrediting of science;
- 30
- 31 (19) Alleged ineffectiveness and misapplication of the
32 duties of the electoral college;
- 33
- 34 (20) Longstanding voter apathy;
- 35
- 36 (21) Disrespect and disregard for civil rights;
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- 38 (22) Anti-urbanism;
- 39
- 40 (23) Disregard for the First Amendment right to free
41 speech;



- 1 (24) Disregard for laws against financial conflicts of
- 2 interest by government leaders;
- 3
- 4 (25) Demagoguery; and
- 5
- 6 (26) Corporate, national, and geopolitical greed; and
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8 WHEREAS, the opinions of Americans on the perceived
9 significance of each of these factors are greatly varied, which
10 has further exacerbated the tremendous divisions that have
11 arisen in this country; and

12
13 WHEREAS, the degree of divisions, resentment, and acrimony
14 that may characterize the mainland United States today is not
15 nearly as evident in the State of Hawaii; and

16
17 WHEREAS, the leaders and residents of the State of Hawaii
18 strive to embody and exhibit civility, openness, respect,
19 understanding, compassion, and acceptance in our State and
20 within our communities; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the "Aloha Spirit" is described in section 5-
23 7.5(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, as "the coordination of mind
24 and heart within each person"; and

25
26 WHEREAS, "aloha" is further defined in the statute as
27 "mutual regard and affection and extends warmth in caring with
28 no obligation in return," "the essence of relationships in which
29 each person is important to every other person for collective
30 existence," and "to hear what is not said, to see what cannot be
31 seen and to know the unknowable"; and

32
33 WHEREAS, Hawaii state law further explains in the statute
34 that "the Spirit of Aloha" is a "life force" and to recognize
35 and contemplate the presence of this life force, we are to use
36 the following "unuhi laula loa," or principles, of "akahai,"
37 "lokahi," "oluolu," "haahaa," and "ahonui"; and

38
39 WHEREAS, "akahai," "lokahi," "oluolu," "haahaa," and
40 "ahonui" are described in our statutes as "traits of character
41 that express the charm, warmth and sincerity of Hawaii's
42 people"; and



1 WHEREAS, "akahai," means "kindness, to be expressed with
2 tenderness"; and

3
4 WHEREAS, "lokahi," means "unity, to be expressed with
5 harmony"; and

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7 WHEREAS, "oluolu," means "agreeable, to be expressed with
8 pleasantness"; and

9
10 WHEREAS, "haahaa," means "humility, to be expressed with
11 modesty"; and

12
13 WHEREAS, "ahonui," means "patience, to be expressed with
14 perseverance"; and

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16 WHEREAS, these words express the working philosophy of
17 native Hawaiians and was presented as a gift to the people of
18 Hawaii; and

19
20 WHEREAS, section 5-7.5(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes,
21 provides that "[i]n exercising their power on behalf of the
22 people and in fulfillment of their responsibilities, obligations
23 and service to the people, the legislature, governor, lieutenant
24 governor, executive officers of each department, the chief
25 justice, associate justices, and judges of the appellate,
26 circuit, and district courts may contemplate and reside with the
27 life force and give consideration to the "Aloha Spirit"; now,
28 therefore,

29
30 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
31 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
32 of 2017, the Senate concurring, that this body asserts the
33 State's commitment to diversity, inclusiveness, equality,
34 compassion, and democratic values by denouncing the hate crimes
35 and hate speech against any person or group of people, which has
36 proliferated during and as a result of the 2016 presidential
37 election, as well as for any other historical, political, or
38 personal reason; and

39
40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the spirit of Aloha, we
41 reject any and all threats made to immigrants, whether as a
42 consequence of this election or otherwise; but rather, we



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1 welcome those from other nations because their acceptance and
2 inclusion is characteristic of so much of Hawaii's history,
3 making it the rich, diverse, and harmonious state that it is;
4 and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the State of Hawaii proclaims
7 itself as a sanctuary state that accepts, welcomes, and keeps
8 safe the men, women, and children in our population who are from
9 other countries, regardless of their citizenship or immigration
10 status; and

11
12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we respect and protect women's
13 rights and regard these rights as human rights, and promote
14 gender equality by condemning the harassment, objectification,
15 discrimination, and physical and emotional abuse of women; and

16
17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we commit to respecting and
18 protecting the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender,
19 and queer people of the state, nation, and world, as we
20 recognize and support their legal right to marry whomever they
21 love, while also rejecting the fear, hate, and bullying
22 exhibited toward them, whether in policy or human conduct, and
23 specifically renounce the atrocity of the mass shooting in the
24 Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida in June 2016; and

25
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we believe religious freedom is
27 one of this nation's most important founding principles, and
28 will not ban or otherwise alienate people because of their
29 faith, but rather welcome all people to pray and worship
30 together, here in Hawaii, in their own ways, while also
31 respecting others' freedom to do the same; and

32
33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we vow to protect civil
34 liberties, individual privacy, and human rights, against
35 excessive government intrusion and federal overreach, by urging
36 our police departments and state departments to protect their
37 records to the best of their abilities; and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we recognize, in the interest
40 of public safety, that anyone who has witnessed a crime has a
41 duty to report it and should feel safe to do so without legal
42 retaliation against them; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that our State prides itself on its
2 natural beauty - wholly composed of volcanic islands, fully
3 surrounded by deep ocean, and inextricably linked to native
4 Hawaiian culture and lore - while mindful of our vulnerability
5 to global warming and the accelerating degradation of our
6 natural environment; and
7

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as we hold fast to our cultural
9 and historical commitment to honor and preserve our 'aina,
10 rejecting all notions that climate change is a hoax, we respect
11 and take heed of the findings and advancements of scientific
12 inquiry and the intent of public policy which supports
13 innovations in clean energy, improves our sustainability, and
14 conserves and protects our natural environment; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we will continue our State's
17 commitment to help ensure our residents have the necessary
18 health care, as it has done since 1974 through the Prepaid
19 Health Care Act, and if the new administration seeks to revoke
20 health insurance from twenty million people, we will work
21 tirelessly to safeguard the health care of Hawaii residents
22 already guaranteed by this State; and
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we encourage and foster
25 entrepreneurship and business in fair and just ways, with
26 appropriate regulation that protects consumers and promotes the
27 vitality and economic wealth of all in our community; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that because we are one of the
30 world's most sought after destinations, our Aloha Spirit is made
31 stronger by the thousands of international visitors we welcome
32 every day, and thus remain committed to internationalism and to
33 our friends around the world; and
34

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the spirit of Aloha, we
36 commit to the aforementioned values, which make Hawaii the
37 unique and special place it is, so that we may serve as a
38 positive role model for not only the rest of the United States,
39 but also for broad global alliances, other nations, states,
40 provinces, cities, communities, and for ourselves as individuals
41 - such as expressed by the "Spirit of Aloha" in section 5-



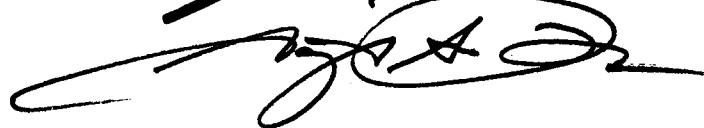


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1 7.5(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, as "the coordination of mind
2 and heart within each person"; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's
6 Congressional delegation and the members and council chairs of
7 the counties of Hawaii, Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui.
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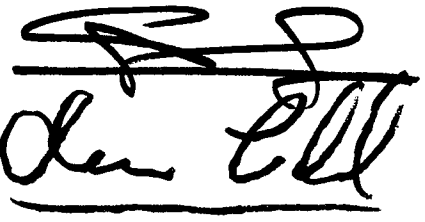
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FEB 16 2017

