
HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING JAMES T. FUNAKI, ESQ. FOR HIS EXEMPLARY CAREER AND
EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, for over 50 years, the House of Representatives
2 has been blessed to have JAMES T. FUNAKI, ESQ. provide wise
3 counsel and invaluable legal services in various capacities,
4 from when he first entered government service as a Third Reading
5 Attorney for the Third Legislature to his last position as
6 Special House Counsel for the Thirtieth Legislature; and
7

8 WHEREAS, JAMES T. FUNAKI, ESQ. grew up in the plantation
9 village of 'Ola'a on the Big Island and after graduating from
10 Hilo High School, he earned a bachelor's degree from Grinnell
11 College and graduate degrees from the University of Michigan
12 and, like many other young men of his time, served honorably in
13 the United States Army before beginning his distinguished career
14 as an attorney; and
15

16 WHEREAS, soon after graduating from law school in Michigan,
17 JAMES T. FUNAKI, ESQ. returned to Honolulu with his young family
18 and passed the Hawaii Bar in 1959 and, along with other young
19 attorneys of his time, was inspired by the ideology of the
20 Democratic party, which was beginning to gain momentum in the
21 newly-admitted state, leading to his first job with the House of
22 Representatives; and
23

24 WHEREAS, one of his greatest achievements during his legal
25 career was representing the House of Representatives before the
26 United States Supreme Court in *Burns v. Richardson*, which
27 affirmed the constitutionality of Hawaii's earliest voter
28 apportionment plan; and
29

30 WHEREAS, JAMES T. FUNAKI, ESQ. maintained a successful
31 private practice as a land use attorney for most of the years



1 that he served the House and continues to maintain a Martindale-
 2 Hubbell AV peer rating -- the highest possible rating
 3 demonstrating that a lawyer's peers rank him at the highest
 4 level of professional excellence and, notwithstanding his
 5 extraordinary resume, his kind and approachable demeanor
 6 endeared him to House members and staff, who continuously relied
 7 on him for guidance and advice; and

8
 9 WHEREAS, on December 31, 2019, the House of Representatives
 10 bid a fond farewell to one of its most iconic and respected
 11 figures, a man whose legacy will forever be remembered; now,
 12 therefore,

13
 14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 15 Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
 16 2020, that this body hereby expresses its deepest appreciation
 17 and warmest aloha to JAMES T. FUNAKI, ESQ. for his outstanding
 18 career of service to the House of Representatives and the State
 19 of Hawaii and extends to him its best wishes for a happy and
 20 fulfilling retirement.

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 22
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OFFERED BY:

DCM v. O'neil

Halestorm

Greg A. Bellotti

Jim

Queen

Jack O'm



H.R. NO. 17

Tommy Green

Tommy Green

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Bill Kopke

John M. [Signature]

Calvin K. [Signature]

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Nicole E. Lowen

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H.R. NO. 17

Del Hiti

My a. Allen

Dad Het

Ken Conrad

Kiaatitagan

Sam & Kay

Val Oh

Guy Tim

Re H.K.D.

Doug Carnes

Raymond
C.J.K.



H.R. NO. 17



Georgia Hilden

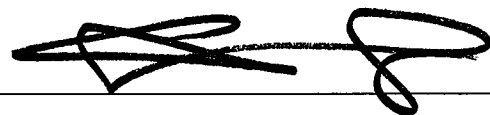
Amy Peruso

Lida T. P. Cabonilla Anakawa

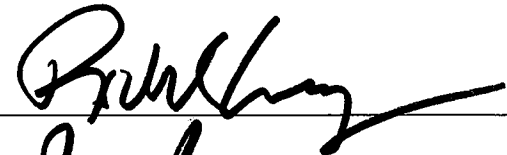


Lynne Roberts

Chen Todd



Melanie K. Neuherr



H.R. NO. 17

James C. ...

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Mark Hall

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Tim Wiltgen

Jan White

JAN 30 2020

