

MAR 10 2023

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII TO  
RENAME DEAN HALL AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA TO  
"ALICE BALL HALL".

1 WHEREAS, Alice Augusta Ball was a talented chemist who made  
2 significant contributions to the field of medicine by  
3 discovering a treatment for leprosy, or Hansen's disease, a  
4 disease thought to be incurable at the time; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, Alice Ball was the first woman and first African  
7 American to receive a master's degree from the University of  
8 Hawaii, then the College of Hawaii, and the University's first  
9 female and African American chemistry instructor; and  
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11 WHEREAS, Alice Ball's master's thesis involved the study of  
12 the chemical properties of the Kava plant species, which further  
13 led Dr. Harry T. Hollmann to approach Ball regarding the study  
14 of chemical properties of chaulmoogra oil for the treatment of  
15 Hansen's disease; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, Alice Ball's research led her to develop a new,  
18 highly effective injectable form of chaulmoogra oil that was  
19 quickly used to treat Hansen's disease patients both in Hawaii  
20 and around the world, revolutionizing treatment and pivotally  
21 shifting the fight against the disease; and  
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23 WHEREAS, in 1918, a Hawaii physician reported in the  
24 *Journal of the American Medical Association* that Board of Health  
25 examiners released seventy-eight patients from Kalihi Hospital  
26 following treatment with injections of Alice Ball's modified  
27 chaulmoogra oil; and  
28

29 WHEREAS, Alice Ball's groundbreaking work directly impacted  
30 the eight thousand people that, upon diagnosis with Hansen's  
31 disease, were able to receive treatment in their homes rather  
32 than be exiled to Kalaupapa, Molokai; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, despite Alice Ball's short research career due to  
3 her passing at age twenty-four, her legacy lives on through her  
4 contributions to the treatment of Hansen's disease, as  
5 injections of modified chaulmoogra oil remained the preferred  
6 treatment for Hansen's disease until sulfonamide drugs were  
7 developed in the 1940s; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, Alice Ball's contributions went unacknowledged  
10 until the twenty-first century; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, Arthur L. Dean, a chemist, Alice Ball's graduate  
13 study adviser, and later President of the University of Hawaii,  
14 continued Ball's work and began producing large quantities of  
15 the injectable chaulmoogra extract but failed to credit Ball in  
16 published research findings, renaming Ball's technique the "Dean  
17 Method", despite Dr. Hollmann's objections; and

18  
19 WHEREAS, "Dean Hall" is a building named after Arthur L.  
20 Dean at the University of Hawaii at Manoa campus; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, renaming Dean Hall to "Alice Ball Hall" is a  
23 fitting tribute to one of the University of Hawaii at Manoa's  
24 most impactful students and instructors and would help  
25 commemorate, increase awareness, and ensure due recognition of  
26 Ball's work; now, therefore,

27  
28 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
29 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
30 House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Regents  
31 of the University of Hawaii is urged to rename the University of  
32 Hawaii at Manoa's Dean Hall to "Alice Ball Hall" in honor of  
33 Alice Augusta Ball's contributions to the field of medicine and  
34 impact on the University of Hawaii and the world; and

35  
36 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
37 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Board of



# S.C.R. NO. 159

1 Regents of the University of Hawaii, and President of the  
2 University of Hawaii.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and appears to be the initials 'ASL'.