HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING CONGRESS AND THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO ADDRESS PUBLIC INTERESTS AND COMMUNITY NEEDS FOR LOCAL MEDIA, INCLUDING NEWS, ACCESS, AND OWNERSHIP.

WHEREAS, the United States must enforce the rights contained in the First Amendment of the United States Constitution, which guarantees that American citizens have the right to freedom of speech and press and to assemble peacefully; and

WHEREAS, the existence of independent and local media ensures that diverse programming, voices, and ideas that are relevant and meaningful to the local community are given ample opportunity to be aired; and

WHEREAS, federal, state, and local policymakers must do their part to ensure a place for local and diverse media that serves the public's interests; and

WHEREAS, state and local governments in communities across America must have meaningful and well-defined roles to adequately protect media consumers and to effectively advocate for local needs and interests; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2006, that Congress and the FCC are urged to ensure media localism for Hawaii's broadband digital future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the FCC is requested to convene, in 2006, a public meeting in Hawaii to consider the role of local, state, and federal jurisdictions that ensure media localism for broadcast, cable, print, and satellite media,

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including future local news and information applications via broadband telecommunications; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation, Chairperson of the Federal Communications Commission, the Governor, Mayors of Hawaii's counties, and their respective City Council members.

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OFFERED BY:

L. Vil. Varanton

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